Sunday, June 10, 2018

Don Morris: "much madness, divinest sense"

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1: Mark 3:20-35 22 min. 03 sec.

[13] Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak,
[14] knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence.
[15] For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.
[16] So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day.
[17] For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,
[18] because we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

[1]For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

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[**20**] and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat.
[**21**] And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for people were saying, "He is beside himself."
[**22**] And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Be-el'zebul, and by the prince of demons he casts out the demons."
[**23**] And he called them to him, and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?
[**24**] If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.
[**25**] And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.
[**26**] And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end.
[**27**] But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man; then indeed he may plunder his house.
[**28**] "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter;
[**29**] but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" --
[**30**] for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."
[**31**] And his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside they sent to him and called him.
[**32**] And a crowd was sitting about him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, asking for you."
[**33**] And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?"
[**34**] And looking around on those who sat about him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!
[**35**] Whoever does the will of God is my brother, and sister, and mother."

Sunday, June 3, 2018
Don Morris: "the shaking the foundations"
Mark 2:23-3:6 17 min. 20 sec.
[**23**] One sabbath he was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain.
[**24**] And the Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?"
[**25**] And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him:
[**26**] how he entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?"
[**27**] And he said to them, "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath;
[**28**] so the Son of man is lord even of the sabbath."

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[**1**] Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand.
[**2**] And they watched him, to see whether he would heal him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him.
[**3**] And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come here."
[**4**] And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent.
[**5**] And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.
[**6**] The Pharisees went out, and immediately held counsel with the Hero'di-ans against him, how to destroy him.

Sunday, May 27, 2018, 11am Service
Don Morris: "Trinity: an effort at demystification"
Romans 8:12-17; John 3:11-16 14 min. 20 sec.
[**12**] So then, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh --
[**13**] for if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live.
[**14**] For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
[**15**] For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, "Abba! Father!"
[**16**] it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
[**17**] and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

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[**11**] Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony.

[**12**] If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?
[**13**] No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man.
[**14**] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,
[**15**] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."
[**16**] For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Sunday, May 20, 2018
Don Morris: "the conditions of the possibility of Holy Spirit"
Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27, 16:4-15 17 min. 51 sec.
[**22**] We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now;
[**23**] and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.
[**24**] For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?
[**25**] But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
[**26**] Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.
[**27**] And he who searches the hearts of men knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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[26] But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me;
[**27**] and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning.

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[**4**] But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you of them. "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.
[**5**] But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, `Where are you going?'
[**6**] But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.
[**7**] Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
[**8**] And when he comes, he will convince the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:
[**9**] concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;
[**10**] concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more;
[**11**] concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.
[**12**] "I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.
[**13**] When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
[**14**] He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
[**15**] All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Sunday, May 13, 2018
Don Morris: (unknown sermon title)
First John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
[**9**] If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has borne witness to his Son.
[**10**] He who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. He who does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne to his Son.
[**11**] And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
[**12**] He who has the Son has life; he who has not the Son of God has not life.
[**13**] I write this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

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[**6**] "I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word.
[**7**] Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee;
[**8**] for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me.
[**9**] I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine;
[**10**] all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them.
[**11**] And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.
[**12**] While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled.
[**13**] But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.
[**14**] I have given them thy word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
[**15**] I do not pray that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil one.
[**16**] They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
[**17**] Sanctify them in the truth; thy word is truth.
[**18**] As thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
[**19**] And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be consecrated in truth.

Sunday, May 6, 2018
Don Morris: "disciples, students, friends"
First John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17 14 min. 39 sec.
[**1**] Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.
[**2**] By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

[**3**] For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.
[**4**] For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith.
[**5**] Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
[**6**] This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood.

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[**9**] As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.
[**10**] If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
[**11**] These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.
[**12**] "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
[**13**] Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
[**14**] You are my friends if you do what I command you.
[**15**] No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.
[**16**] You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.
[**17**] This I command you, to love one another.

Sunday, April 29, 2018
Don Morris: "keeping current with Jesus--if you're interested"
First John 4:7-21; John 15:1-11 19 min. 53 sec.
[**7**] Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God.
[**8**] He who does not love does not know God; for God is love.
[**9**] In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.
[**10**] In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.
[**11**] Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
[**12**] No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.
[**13**] By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his own Spirit.
[**14**] And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world.
[**15**] Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.
[**16**] So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.
[**17**] In this is love perfected with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so are we in this world.
[**18**] There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment,

and he who fears is not perfected in love.
[**19**] We love, because he first loved us.
[**20**] If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.
[**21**] And this commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also.

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[**1**] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.
[**2**] Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
[**3**] You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you.
[**4**] Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
[**5**] I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
[**6**] If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned.
[**7**] If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.
[**8**] By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.
[**9**] As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.
[**10**] If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
[**11**] These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Sunday, April 22, 2018
Don Morris: "hating other Christians for the love of God?"
First John 3:16-24 15 min. 37 sec.
[**16**] By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
[**17**] But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?
[**18**] Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth.
[**19**] By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our hearts before him
[**20**] whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.
[**21**] Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God;
[**22**] and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.
[**23**] And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
[**24**] All who keep his commandments abide in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit which he has given us.

Sunday, April 15, 2018

Don Morris: "the canonical Jesus, the theological Jesus, or Jesus himself"

First John 3:1-7; Luke 24: 36-48 16 min. 24 sec.

[**1**] See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
[**2**] Beloved, we are God's children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.
[**3**] And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.
[**4**] Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.
[**5**] You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.
[**6**] No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.
[**7**] Little children, let no one deceive you. He who does right is righteous, as he is righteous.

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[**36**] As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them.
[**37**] But they were startled and frightened and supposed that they saw a spirit.
[**38**] And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts?
[**39**] See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have."
[**41**] And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"
[**42**] They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
[**43**] and he took it and ate before them.
[**44**] Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled."
[**45**] Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
[**46**] and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,
[**47**] and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
[**48**] You are witnesses of these things.

Sunday, April 8, 2018

Don Morris: "the human face of God?"

First John 1:1-4; John 20:19-23 19 min. 23 sec.

[**1**] That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life --
[**2**] the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us --
[**3**] that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
[**4**] And we are writing this that our joy may be complete.

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[**19**] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."
[**20**] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
[**21**] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."
[**22**] And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
[**23**] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Sunday, April 1, 2018
Don Morris: "resurrection and tradition *et moi*"
First Corinthians 15:1-8; John 20:1-10 14 min. 22 sec.
[**1**] Now I would remind you, brethren, in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand,
[**2**] by which you are saved, if you hold it fast -- unless you believed in vain.
[**3**] For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,
[**4**] that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,
[**5**] and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.
[**6**] Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.
[**7**] Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.
[**8**] Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

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[**1**] Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
[**2**] So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."
[**3**] Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb.
[**4**] They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first;
[**5**] and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.
[**6**] Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying,
[**7**] and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself.
[**8**] Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;
[**9**] for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.
[**10**] Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Sunday, March 25, 2018
Don Morris: "the death of Jesus: history or theology?"
Mark (passion narrative) 32 min. 29 sec.

Sunday, March 11, 2018, 11am Service
Don Morris: "good news concerning the good news"
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21 20 min. 53 sec.
[**1**] And you he made alive, when you were dead through the trespasses and sins
[**2**] in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience.
[**3**] Among these we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of body and mind, and so we were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.
[**4**] But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us,
[**5**] even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),
[**6**] and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
[**7**] that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
[**8**] For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God --
[**9**] not because of works, lest any man should boast.
[**10**] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them

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[**14**] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,
[**15**] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."
[**16**] For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
[**17**] For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.
[**18**] He who believes in him is not condemned; he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.
[**19**] And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
[**20**] For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.
[**21**] But he who does what is true comes to the light, that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been wrought in God.

Sunday, March 4, 2018
Don Morris: "from crucifixion to cause célèbre"
First Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22 14 min. 23 sec.
[**18**] For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
[**19**] For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart."
[**20**] Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?
[**21**] For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.
[**22**] For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom,
[**23**] but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,
[**24**] but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
[**25**] For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

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[**13**] The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
[**14**] In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the moneychangers at their business.
[**15**] And making a whip of cords, he drove them all, with the sheep and oxen, out of the temple; and he poured out the coins of the moneychangers and overturned their tables.
[**16**] And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; you shall not make my Father's house a house of trade."
[**17**] His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for thy house will consume me."
[**18**] The Jews then said to him, "What sign have you to show us for doing this?"
[**19**] Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."
[**20**] The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?"
[**21**] But he spoke of the temple of his body.
[**22**] When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

Sunday, February 25, 2018
Don Morris: "an invitation to death and life"
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38 21 min. 39 sec.
[**13**] The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.
[**14**] If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.
[**15**] For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.
[**16**] That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants -- not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, for he is the father of us all,
[**17**] as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations" -- in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.
[**18**] In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations; as he had been told, "So shall your descendants be."
[**19**] He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead because he was about a hundred years old, or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

[**20**] No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,
[**21**] fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.
[**22**] That is why his faith was "reckoned to him as righteousness."
[**23**] But the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone,
[**24**] but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him that raised from the dead Jesus our Lord,
[**25**] who was put to death for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

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[**31**] And he began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
[**32**] And he said this plainly. And Peter took him and began to rebuke him.
[**33**] But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men."
[**34**] And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[**35**] For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.
[**36**] For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?
[**37**] For what can a man give in return for his life?
[**38**] For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sunday, February 11, 2018
Don Morris: "transfiguration demystified"
Second Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9 19 min. 17 sec.
[**3**] And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing.
[**4**] In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the likeness of God.
[**5**] For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.
[**6**] For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

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[**2**] And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves; and he was transfigured before them,
[**3**] and his garments became glistening, intensely white, as no fuller on earth could bleach them.
[**4**] And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses; and they were talking to Jesus.
[**5**] And Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for

you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."
[**6**] For he did not know what to say, for they were exceedingly afraid.
[**7**] And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him."
[**8**] And suddenly looking around they no longer saw any one with them but Jesus only.
[**9**] And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of man should have risen from the dead.

Sunday, February 4, 2018
Don Morris: "the protean Paul, or the apostle of freedom?"
First Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39 16 min. 03 sec.
[**16**] For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!
[**17**] For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission.
[**18**] What then is my reward? Just this: that in my preaching I may make the gospel free of charge, not making full use of my right in the gospel.
[**19**] For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more.
[**20**] To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews; to those under the law I became as one under the law -- though not being myself under the law -- that I might win those under the law.
[**21**] To those outside the law I became as one outside the law -- not being without law toward God but under the law of Christ -- that I might win those outside the law.
[**22**] To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.
[**23**] I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

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[**29**] And immediately he left the synagogue, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.
[**30**] Now Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her.
[**31**] And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them.
[**32**] That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.
[**33**] And the whole city was gathered together about the door.
[**34**] And he healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.
[**35**] And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed.
[**36**] And Simon and those who were with him pursued him,
[**37**] and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is searching for you."
[**38**] And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out."
[**39**] And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sunday, January 28, 2018
Don Morris: "the qualifications of loyalty, part 4: working"
First Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28 19 min. 44 sec.

[**1**] Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." "Knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up.
[**2**] If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know.
[**3**] But if one loves God, one is known by him.
[**4**] Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one."
[**5**] For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth -- as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords" --
[**6**] yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.
[**7**] However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through being hitherto accustomed to idols, eat food as really offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.
[**8**] Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.
[**9**] Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.
[**10**] For if anyone sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols?
[**11**] And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died.
[**12**] Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.
[**13**] Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

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[**21**] And they went into Capernaum; and immediately on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught.
[**22**] And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes.
[**23**] And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit;
[**24**] and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."
[**25**] But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"
[**26**] And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.
[**27**] And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching! With authority he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."
[**28**] And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Sunday, January 21, 2018
Don Morris: "the qualifications of loyalty, part 3: giving"
Mark 1:14-20 14 min. 08 sec.
[**14**] Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,
[**15**] and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."
[**16**] And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen.
[**17**] And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men."
[**18**] And immediately they left their nets and followed him.
[**19**] And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets.
[**20**] And immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and followed him.

Sunday, January 14, 2018
Don Morris: "the qualifications of loyalty, part 2: being here"
First Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51 24 min. 42 sec.
[**12**] "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything.
[**13**] "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.
[**14**] And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.
[**15**] Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never!
[**16**] Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh."
[**17**] But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.
[**18**] Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body.
[**19**] Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own;
[**20**] you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

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[**43**] The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."
[**44**] Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.
[**45**] Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."
[**46**] Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."
[**47**] Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!"
[**48**] Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called

you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."
[**49**] Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"
[**50**] Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these."
[**51**] And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Sunday, January 7, 2018
Don Morris: "the qualifications of loyalty, part 1: care"
Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11 20 min. 38 sec.
[**1**] While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples.
[**2**] And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."
[**3**] And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism."
[**4**] And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus."
[**5**] On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
[**6**] And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.
[**7**] There were about twelve of them in all.

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[**4**] John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
[**5**] And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
[**6**] Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey.
[**7**] And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.
[**8**] I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
[**9**] In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
[**10**] And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove;
[**11**] and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Sunday, December 31, 2017
Don Morris: "on the possibility of a secular Christianity"
Matthew 25:31-46 23 min. 29 sec.
[**31**] "When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.
[**32**] Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
[**33**] and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left.

[**34**] Then the King will say to those at his right hand, `Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;
[**35**] for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
[**36**] I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'
[**37**] Then the righteous will answer him, `Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink?
[**38**] And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee?
[**39**] And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?'
[**40**] And the King will answer them, `Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'
[**41**] Then he will say to those at his left hand, `Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;
[**42**] for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
[**43**] I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'
[**44**] Then they also will answer, `Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?'
[**45**] Then he will answer them, `Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.'
[**46**] And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sunday, December 24, 2017
Don Morris: "the irony of Christmas"
Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38 17 min. 20 sec.
[**25**] Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret for long ages
[**26**] but is now disclosed and through the prophetic writings is made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith --
[**27**] to the only wise God be glory for evermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

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[**26**] In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,
[**27**] to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.
[**28**] And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"
[**29**] But she was greatly troubled at the saying and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be.
[**30**] And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.
[**31**] And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.
[**32**] He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High;
and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,
[**33**] and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever;
and of his kingdom there will be no end."

[**34**] And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?"
[**35**] And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you;
therefore the child to be born will be called holy,
the Son of God.
[**36**] And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.
[**37**] For with God nothing will be impossible."
[**38**] And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Sunday, December 10, 2017
Don Morris: "the Advent state of mind"
Peter 3:8-15; Mark 1:1-8 19 min. 27 sec.
[8] Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind.
[**9**] Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing.
[**10**] For "He that would love life
and see good days,
let him keep his tongue from evil
and his lips from speaking guile;
[**11**] let him turn away from evil and do right;
let him seek peace and pursue it.
[**12**] For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous,
and his ears are open to their prayer.
But the face of the Lord is against those that do evil."
[**13**] Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is right?
[**14**] But even if you do suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,
[**15**] but in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence;

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[**1**] The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
[**2**] As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face,
who shall prepare thy way;
[**3**] the voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight -- "
[**4**] John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
[**5**] And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
[**6**] Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate

locusts and wild honey.
[**7**] And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.
[**8**] I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Sunday, December 3, 2017
Don Morris: "perpetually awaiting a renaissance of wonder"
First Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37 19 min. 04 sec.
[**3**] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
[**4**] I give thanks to God always for you because of the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus,
[**5**] that in every way you were enriched in him with all speech and all knowledge --
[**6**] even as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you --
[**7**] so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ;
[**8**] who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
[**9**] God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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[**24**] "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,
[**25**] and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
[**26**] And then they will see the Son of man coming in clouds with great power and glory.
[**27**] And then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
[**28**] "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.
[**29**] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.
[**30**] Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away before all these things take place.
[**31**] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
[**32**] "But of that day or that hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.
[**33**] Take heed, watch; for you do not know when the time will come.
[**34**] It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.
[**35**] Watch therefore -- for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning --
[**36**] lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.
[**37**] And what I say to you I say to all: Watch."

Sunday, November 19, 2017
Don Morris: "the conservative temperament: pros and cons"
Matthew 25:14-30 21 min. 06 sec.
[**14**] "For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property;
[**15**] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.
[**16**] He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more.
[**17**] So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more.
[**18**] But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.
[**19**] Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.
[**20**] And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, `Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.'
[**21**] His master said to him, `Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'
[**22**] And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, `Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.'
[**23**] His master said to him, `Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'
[**24**] He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, `Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow;
[**25**] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'
[**26**] But his master answered him, `You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed?
[**27**] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.
[**28**] So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.
[**29**] For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away.
[**30**] And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'

Sunday, November 12, 2017
Don Morris: "contingency and spirituality"
Matthew 25:1-13 18 min. 48 sec.
[**1**] "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be compared to ten maidens who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
[**2**] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
[**3**] For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them;
[**4**] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
[**5**] As the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.
[**6**] But at midnight there was a cry, `Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
[**7**] Then all those maidens rose and trimmed their lamps.
[**8**] And the foolish said to the wise, `Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

[**9**] But the wise replied, `Perhaps there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.'
[**10**] And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast; and the door was shut.
[**11**] Afterward the other maidens came also, saying, `Lord, lord, open to us.'
[**12**] But he replied, `Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'
[**13**] Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Sunday, October 29, 2017
Don Morris: "Jesus as the Christ, or Jesus versus the Christ?"
Matthew 22:34-46 18 min. 32 sec.
[**34**] But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together.
[**35**] And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him.
[**36**] "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"
[**37**] And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
[**38**] This is the great and first commandment.
[**39**] And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
[**40**] On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."
[**41**] Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question,
[**42**] saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David."
[**43**] He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,
[**44**] `The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
till I put thy enemies under thy feet'?
[**45**] If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?"
[**46**] And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Sunday, October 22, 2017
Don Morris: "or that which belongs to the self"
Matthew 22:15-22 13 min. 28 sec.
[**15**] Then the Pharisees went and took counsel how to entangle him in his talk.
[**16**] And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men.
[**17**] Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"
[**18**] But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites?
[**19**] Show me the money for the tax." And they brought him a coin.
[**20**] And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?"
[**21**] They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
[**22**] When they heard it, they marveled; and they left him and went away.

Sunday, October 15, 2017
Don Morris: "preference and consequence"
Matthew 22:1-14 15 min. 19 sec.
[**1**] And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying,
[**2**] "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son,
[**3**] and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come.
[**4**] Again he sent other servants, saying, `Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.'
[**5**] But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business,
[**6**] while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.
[**7**] The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.
[**8**] Then he said to his servants, `The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.
[**9**] Go therefore to the thoroughfares and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.'
[**10**] And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.
[**11**] "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment;
[**12**] and he said to him, `Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.
[**13**] Then the king said to the attendants, `Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'
[**14**] For many are called, but few are chosen."

Sunday, October 8, 2017
Don Morris: "the auspicious arrival of the Son: sublime strategy or tragic miscalculation?"
Matthew 21:33-46 21 min. 33 sec.
[**33**] "Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country.
[**34**] When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit;
[**35**] and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.
[**36**] Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them.
[**37**] Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, `They will respect my son.'
[**38**] But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, `This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.'
[**39**] And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.
[**40**] When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"
[**41**] They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."
[**42**] Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: `The very stone which the builders rejected

has become the head of the corner;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes'?
[**43**] Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it."
[**45**] When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.
[**46**] But when they tried to arrest him, they feared the multitudes, because they held him to be a prophet.

Sunday, October 1, 2017
Don Morris: "the impenetrable mystery of changing one's mind"
Matthew 21:23-32 16 min. 26 sec.
[**23**] And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"
[**24**] Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you a question; and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things.
[**25**] The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven or from men?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, `From heaven,' he will say to us, `Why then did you not believe him?'
[**26**] But if we say, `From men,' we are afraid of the multitude; for all hold that John was a prophet."
[**27**] So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.
[**28**] "What do you think? A man had two sons; and he went to the first and said, `Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'
[**29**] And he answered, `I will not'; but afterward he repented and went.
[**30**] And he went to the second and said the same; and he answered, `I go, sir,' but did not go.
[**31**] Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.
[**32**] For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots believed him; and even when you saw it, you did not afterward repent and believe him.

Sunday, September 24, 2017
Don Morris: "reflections on time and grace"
Matthew 20:1-16 18 min. 37 sec.
[**1**] "For the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.
[**2**] After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
[**3**] And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place;
[**4**] and to them he said, `You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went.
[**5**] Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same.

[**6**] And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing; and he said to them, `Why do you stand here idle all day?'
[**7**] They said to him, `Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, `You go into the vineyard too.'
[**8**] And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, `Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.'
[**9**] And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.
[**10**] Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.
[**11**] And on receiving it they grumbled at the householder,
[**12**] saying, `These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'
[**13**] But he replied to one of them, `Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?
[**14**] Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you.
[**15**] Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?'
[**16**] So the last will be first, and the first last."

Sunday, September 17, 2017
Don Morris: "the problematics of grace"
Matthew 18:21-35 23 min. 21 sec.
[**21**] Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?"
[**22**] Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.
[**23**] "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.
[**24**] When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents;
[**25**] and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.
[**26**] So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, `Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'
[**27**] And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.
[**28**] But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, `Pay what you owe.'
[**29**] So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, `Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'
[**30**] He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt.
[**31**] When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.
[**32**] Then his lord summoned him and said to him, `You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me;
[**33**] and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?'
[**34**] And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt.

[**35**] So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Sunday, September 10, 2017
Don Morris: "on the (questionable) limits of ecclesiastical patience"
Matthew 18:15-20 23 min. 35 sec.
[**15**] "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.
[**16**] But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.
[**17**] If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.
[**18**] Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
[**19**] Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.
[**20**] For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Sunday, September 3, 2017
Don Morris: "the dilemma of life and its highly paradoxical resolution"
Matthew 16:21-28 18 min. 13 sec.
[**21**] From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
[**22**] And Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you."
[**23**] But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men."
[**24**] Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[**25**] For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
[**26**] For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?
[**27**] For the Son of man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay every man for what he has done.
[**28**] Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

Sunday, August 27, 2017
Don Morris: "the keys to the kingdom"
Matthew 16:13-20 14 min. 52 sec.
[**13**] Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?"
[**14**] And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
[**15**] He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
[**16**] Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
[**17**] And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.
[**18**] And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.
[**19**] I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."
[**20**] Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Sunday, August 20, 2017
Don Morris: "the inadvertent humanization of Jesus"
Matthew 15: 21-28 23 min. 35 sec.
[**21**] And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.
[**22**] And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon."
[**23**] But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us."
[**24**] He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."
[**25**] But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."
[**26**] And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."
[**27**] She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."
[**28**] Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Sunday, July 30, 2017
Don Morris: "the scribal element in Christian spirituality"
Matthew13:31-33, 44-52 (poem by friend ends 21min.21 sec.) 29 min. 39 sec.
[**31**] Another parable he put before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field;
[**32**] it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."
[**33**] He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened."

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[**44**] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

[**45**] "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls,
[**46**] who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.
[**47**] "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind;
[**48**] when it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad.
[**49**] So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous,
[**50**] and throw them into the furnace of fire; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.
[**51**] "Have you understood all this?" They said to him, "Yes."
[**52**] And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Sunday, July 23, 2017
Don Morris: ""the seduction of final solutions" or "Matthew's dystopian vision?" "
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 19 min. 10 sec.
[**24**] Another parable he put before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field;
[**25**] but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away.
[**26**] So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.
[**27**] And the servants of the householder came and said to him, `Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?'
[**28**] He said to them, `An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, `Then do you want us to go and gather them?'
[**29**] But he said, `No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them.
[**30**] Let both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

[**36**] Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."
[**37**] He answered, "He who sows the good seed is the Son of man;
[**38**] the field is the world, and the good seed means the sons of the kingdom; the weeds are the sons of the evil one,
[**39**] and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels.
[**40**] Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age.
[**41**] The Son of man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,
[**42**] and throw them into the furnace of fire; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.
[**43**] Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

Sunday, July 16, 2017
Don Morris: "the everlasting suspension of final meaning"
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 20 min. 57 sec.
[**1**] That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.
[**2**] And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach.
[**3**] And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow.
[**4**] And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.
[**5**] Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,
[**6**] but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away.
[**7**] Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.
[**8**] Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
[**9**] He who has ears, let him hear."

[**18**] "Hear then the parable of the sower.
[**19**] When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in his heart; this is what was sown along the path.
[**20**] As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
[**21**] yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.
[**22**] As for what was sown among thorns, this is he who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the delight in riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.
[**23**] As for what was sown on good soil, this is he who hears the word and understands it; he indeed bears fruit, and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Sunday, July 9, 2017
Don Morris: "the highly ironic revelation of Jesus Christ"
Matthew 11:25-30 26 min. 05 sec.
[**25**] At that time Jesus declared, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes;
[**26**] yea, Father, for such was thy gracious will.
[**27**] All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
[**28**] Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
[**29**] Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
[**30**] For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Sunday, July 2, 2017
Don Morris: "on repaying one's teacher badly"
Matthew 10:24-42 17 min. 54 sec.
[**24**] "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master;
[**25**] it is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.
[**26**] "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered that will not be revealed or hidden that will not be known.
[**27**] What I tell you in the dark, utter in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim upon the housetops.
[**28**] And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
[**29**] Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father's will.
[**30**] But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.
[**31**] Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.
[**32**] So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven;
[**33**] but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.
[**34**] "Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.
[**35**] For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
[**36**] and a man's foes will be those of his own household.
[**37**] He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;
[**38**] and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
[**39**] He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake will find it.
[**40**] "He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives him who sent me.
[**41**] He who receives a prophet because he is a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward, and he who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.
[**42**] And whoever gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

Sunday, June 18, 2017
Don Morris: "song of innocence, song of experience"
Matthew 9:35-10:8 22 min. 06 sec.
[**35**] And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.
[**36**] When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
[**37**] Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
[**38**] pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

[**1**] And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity.
[**2**] The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;
[**3**] Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
[**4**] Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.
[**5**] These twelve Jesus sent out, charging them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,
[**6**] but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
[**7**] And preach as you go, saying, `The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'
[**8**] Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay.

Sunday, June 11, 2017
Don Morris: "complicating the great commission"
Matthew 28:16-20 21 min, 10 sec.
[**16**] Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.
[**17**] And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted.
[**18**] And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
[**19**] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
[**20**] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

Sunday, May 28, 2017
Don Morris: "on the Christian mode of being on one's own in the world"
John 17:1-11 21 min.
[**1**] When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee,
[**2**] since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him.
[**3**] And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.
[**4**] I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do;
[**5**] and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made.
[**6**] "I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word.
[**7**] Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee;
[**8**] for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me.

[**9**] I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine;
[**10**] all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them.
[**11**] And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

Sunday, May 21, 2017
Don Morris: "and the Word became words?"
John 14:15-21 20 min. 47 sec.
[**15**] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
[**16**] And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever,
[**17**] even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.
[**18**] "I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you.
[**19**] Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more, but you will see me; because I live, you will live also.
[**20**] In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.
[**21**] He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Sunday, May 14, 2017
Don Morris: "the day of realization"
John 14:1-14 23 min. 42 sec.
[**1**] "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me.
[**2**] In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
[**3**] And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.
[**4**] And you know the way where I am going."
[**5**] Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"
[**6**] Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.
[**7**] If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; henceforth you know him and have seen him."
[**8**] Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied."
[**9**] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father; how can you say, `Show us the Father'?
[**10**] Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.
[**11**] Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else believe me for the sake of the works themselves.
[**12**] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father.

[**13**] Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son;
[**14**] if you ask anything in my name, I will do it.

Sunday, May 7, 2017
Don Morris: "the pastoral center of theological attention"
John 10:1-11 15 min. 55 sec.
[**1**] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber;
[**2**] but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
[**3**] To him the gatekeeper opens; the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
[**4**] When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.
[**5**] A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."
[**6**] This figure Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.
[**7**] So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.
[**8**] All who came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not heed them.
[**9**] I am the door; if anyone enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.
[**10**] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.
[**11**] I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Sunday, April 30, 2017
Don Morris: "a peripatetic Easter seminar"
Luke 24:13-35 26 min. 49 sec.
[**13**] That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,
[**14**] and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.
[**15**] While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.
[**16**] But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.
[**17**] And he said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad.
[**18**] Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"
[**19**] And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,
[**20**] and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death and crucified him.
[**21**] But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now

the third day since this happened.
[**22**] Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning
[**23**] and did not find his body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.
[**24**] Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see."
[**25**] And he said to them, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!
[**26**] Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?"
[**27**] And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.
[**28**] So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further,
[**29**] but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them.
[**30**] When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them.
[**31**] And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight.
[**32**] They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?"
[**33**] And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them,
[**34**] who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"
[**35**] Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Sunday, April 23, 2017
Don Morris: "the surreptitious arrival of the Holy Spirit"
John 20:19-31 24 min. 30 sec.
[**19**] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."
[**20**] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
[**21**] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."
[**22**] And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
[**23**] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
[**24**] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.
[**25**] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."
[**26**] Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you."

[**27**] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless but believing."
[**28**] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
[**29**] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."
[**30**] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
[**31**] but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Sunday, April 16, 2017
Don Morris: "a pedigogical path to the Risen Christ?"
John 20:1-18 18 min. 09 sec.
[**1**] Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
[**2**] So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."
[**3**] Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb.
[**4**] They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first;
[**5**] and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.
[**6**] Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying,
[**7**] and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself.
[**8**] Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;
[**9**] for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.
[**10**] Then the disciples went back to their homes.
[**11**] But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb;
[**12**] and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.
[**13**] They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."
[**14**] Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus.
[**15**] Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."
[**16**] Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).
[**17**] Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."
[**18**] Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sunday, April 9, 2017
Don Morris: "Ecce Homo or the quest for the human Jesus"
Matthew 26:14-27 35 min. 32 sec.
[**14**] Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests
[**15**] and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver.
[**16**] And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.
[**17**] Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the passover?"
[**18**] He said, "Go into the city to a certain one, and say to him, `The Teacher says, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at your house with my disciples.'"
[**19**] And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the passover.
[**20**] When it was evening, he sat at table with the twelve disciples;
[**21**] and as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me."
[**22**] And they were very sorrowful, and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?"
[**23**] He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me, will betray me.
[**24**] The Son of man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."
[**25**] Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Is it I, Master?" He said to him, "You have said so."
[**26**] Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."
[**27**] And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you;

Sunday, March 26, 2017
Don Morris: "the ambiguity of perspicacity or in the midst of light and darkness"
John 9:39-41 21 min. 28 sec.
[**39**] Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."
[**40**] Some of the Pharisees near him heard this, and they said to him, "Are we also blind?"
[**41**] Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, `We see,' your guilt remains.

Sunday, March 19, 2017
Don Morris: "the quest for spiritual self-sufficiency"
John 4:5-15 22 min. 14 sec.
[**5**] So he came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
[**6**] Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.
[**7**] There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
[**8**] For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

[**9**] The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.
[**10**] Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, `Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."
[**11**] The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water?
[**12**] Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?"
[**13**] Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again,
[**14**] but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
[**15**] The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

Sunday, March 12, 2017
Don Morris: "the Gospel of Lent, or beginning in the middle"
John 3:1-17 21 min. 31 sec.
[**1**] Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.
[**2**] This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him."
[**3**] Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
[**4**] Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"
[**5**] Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
[**6**] That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
[**7**] Do not marvel that I said to you, `You must be born anew.'
[**8**] The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."
[**9**] Nicodemus said to him, "How can this be?"
[**10**] Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand this?
[**11**] Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony.
[**12**] If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?
[**13**] No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man.
[**14**] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,
[**15**] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."
[**16**] For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
[**17**] For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Sunday, March 5, 2017
Don Morris: "temptation demythologized"
Matthew 4:1-11 14 min. 45 sec.
[**1**] Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
[**2**] And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry.
[**3**] And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."
[**4**] But he answered, "It is written, `Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"
[**5**] Then the devil took him to the holy city, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple,
[**6**] and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, `He will give his angels charge of you,'
and `On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"
[**7**] Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, `You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"
[**8**] Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them;
[**9**] and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."
[**10**] Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! for it is written, `You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.'"
[**11**] Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and ministered to him.

Sunday, February 26, 2017
Don Morris: "Jesus untransfigured"
Matthew 17:1-9 22 min. 58 sec.
[**1**] And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart.
[**2**] And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light.
[**3**] And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.
[**4**] And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."
[**5**] He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."
[**6**] When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe.
[**7**] But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear."
[**8**] And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.
[**9**] And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

Sunday, February 19, 2017
Don Morris: "the resistance of non-resistance, or, love as strategy"
Matthew 5:38-48 22 min. 01 sec.
[**38**] "You have heard that it was said, `An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'
[**39**] But I say to you, Do not resist one who is evil. But if any one strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also;
[**40**] and if anyone would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well;
[**41**] and if any one forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.
[**42**] Give to him who begs from you, and do not refuse him who would borrow from you.
[**43**] "You have heard that it was said, `You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'
[**44**] But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
[**45**] so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.
[**46**] For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?
[**47**] And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?
[**48**] You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Sunday, February 5, 2017
Don Morris: "Matthew's controversially conservative Jesus"
Matthew 5: 12-20 14 min. 09 sec.
[**12**] Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.
[**13**] "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men.
[**14**] "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid.
[**15**] Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.
[**16**] Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
[**17**] "Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them.
[**18**] For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.
[**19**] Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
[**20**] For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Sunday, January 29, 2017
Don Morris: "meta-beatitude?"
Matthew 5:1-11 18 min. 05 sec.
[**1**] Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him.
[**2**] And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
[**3**] "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[**4**] "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
[**5**] "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
[**6**] "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
[**7**] "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
[**8**] "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
[**9**] "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
[**10**] "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[**11**] "Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Sunday, January 22, 2017
Don Morris: " when the student is ready..."
Matthew 4:12-23 20 min. 35 sec.
[**12**] Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee;
[**13**] and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,
[**14**] that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
[**15**] "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
toward the sea, across the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles --
[**16**] the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."
[**17**] From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
[**18**] As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.
[**19**] And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."
[**20**] Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
[**21**] And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.
[**22**] Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.
[**23**] And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

Sunday, January 15, 2017
Don Morris: " come and see: thoughts on the variety of discipleship"
John 1:29-42 21 min. 39 sec.
[**29**] The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
[**30**] This is he of whom I said, `After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.'
[**31**] I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."
[**32**] And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him.
[**33**] I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, `He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'
[**34**] And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."
[**35**] The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples;
[**36**] and he looked at Jesus as he walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"
[**37**] The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.
[**38**] Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you seek?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?"
[**39**] He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.
[**40**] One of the two who heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.
[**41**] He first found his brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ).
[**42**] He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him, and said, "So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

Sunday, January 8, 2017
Don Morris: " unbaptizing Jesus!"
Matthew 3:13-17 14 min. 40 sec.
[**13**] Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.
[**14**] John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"
[**15**] But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented.
[**16**] And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him;
[**17**] and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Sunday, January 1, 2017
Don Morris: "naming, renaming, and un-naming Jesus"
Luke 2:15-21 22 min. 11 sec.
[**15**] When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."
[**16**] And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
[**17**] And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child;
[**18**] and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.
[**19**] But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.
[**20**] And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
[**21**] And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Sunday, December 25, 2016
Don Morris: "the birth vs. the life of Jesus?"
Matthew 1:18-25 13 min. 10 sec.
Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.
19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.
20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."
22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:
23 "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."
24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife,
25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Don Morris: "the least in the kingdom of heaven, or 'toward a mature relationship to authority'"
Matthew 3:1-12 19 min. 35 sec.
[**1**] In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea,
[**2**] "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
[**3**] For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one

crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."
[**4**] Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.
[**5**] Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan,
[**6**] and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
[**7**] But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
[**8**] Bear fruit that befits repentance,
[**9**] and do not presume to say to yourselves, `We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.
[**10**] Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
[**11**] "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
[**12**] His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Sunday, November 27, 2016
Don Morris: "coping with contingency or *leaning toward nirvana*"
Matthew 24:36-44 24 min. 28 sec.
[**36**] "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.
[**37**] As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man.
[**38**] For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark,
[**39**] and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man.
[**40**] Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left.
[**41**] Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left.
[**42**] Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.
[**43**] But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into.
[**44**] Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Sunday, November 20, 2016
Don Morris: "Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum, vs. 'the Lamb upon the throne"
Luke 23:33-43 20 min. 28 sec.
[**33**] And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.
[**34**] And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.
[**35**] And the people stood by, watching; but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others;

let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!"
[**36**] The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar,
[**37**] and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"
[**38**] There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."
[**39**] One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"
[**40**] But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?
[**41**] And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
[**42**] And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
[**43**] And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Sunday, November 13, 2016
Don Morris: "on the (oh so obviously) human voices of divine deliverance"
Luke 21:5-19 18 min. 15 sec.
[**5**] And as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said,
[**6**] "As for these things which you see, the days will come when there shall not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."
[**7**] And they asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign when this is about to take place?"
[**8**] And he said, "Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name, saying, `I am he!' and, `The time is at hand!' Do not go after them.
[**9**] And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once."
[**10**] Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
[**11**] there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.
[**12**] But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake.
[**13**] This will be a time for you to bear testimony.
[**14**] Settle it therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer;
[**15**] for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.
[**16**] You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and kinsmen and friends, and some of you they will put to death;
[**17**] you will be hated by all for my name's sake.
[**18**] But not a hair of your head will perish.
[**19**] By your endurance you will gain your lives.

Sunday, November 6, 2016
Don Morris: "the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob---and Harvie Branscomb?"
Luke 20:27-38 21 min. 40 sec.
[**27**] There came to him some Sadducees, those who say that there is no resurrection,
[**28**] and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the wife and raise up children for his brother.
[**29**] Now there were seven brothers; the first took a wife and died without children;
[**30**] and the second
[**31**] and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died.
[**32**] Afterward the woman also died.
[**33**] In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife."
[**34**] And Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage;
[**35**] but those who are accounted worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage,
[**36**] for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.
[**37**] But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.
[**38**] Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living; for all live to him."

Sunday, October 30, 2016
Don Morris: "deliverances and renunciations"
Luke 19:1-10 20 min. 27 sec.
[**1**] He entered Jericho and was passing through.
[**2**] And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich.
[**3**] And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature.
[**4**] So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way.
[**5**] And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today."
[**6**] So he made haste and came down and received him joyfully.
[**7**] And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner."
[**8**] And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold."
[**9**] And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham.
[**10**] For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

Sunday, October 16, 2016
Don Morris: "before the law"
Luke 18:1-8 14 min. 44 sec.
[**1**] And he told them a parable, to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.
[**2**] He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man;
[**3**] and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, `Vindicate me against my adversary.'
[**4**] For a while he refused; but afterward he said to himself, `Though I neither fear God nor regard man,
[**5**] yet because this widow bothers me, I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out by her continual coming.'"
[**6**] And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says.
[**7**] And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?
[**8**] I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Sunday, October 9, 2016
Don Morris: "transcendent gratitude"
Luke 17:11-19 19 min. 15 sec.
[**11**] On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee.
[**12**] And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance
[**13**] and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."
[**14**] When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed.
[**15**] Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice;
[**16**] and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan.
[**17**] Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?
[**18**] Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"
[**19**] And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Sunday, October 2, 2016
Don Morris: "Jesus vs. St. Benedict"
Luke 17: 5-10 13 min. 14 sec.
[**5**] The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"
[**6**] And the Lord said, "If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this sycamine tree, `Be rooted up, and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.
[**7**] "Will any one of you, who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep, say to him when he has come in from the field, `Come at once and sit down at table'?
[**8**] Will he not rather say to him, `Prepare supper for me, and gird yourself and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterward you shall eat and drink'?
[**9**] Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded?
[**10**] So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, `We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

Sunday, September 25, 2016
Don Morris: "the unpersuadables"
Luke 16:19-31
[**19**] "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.
[**20**] And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores,
[**21**] who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.
[**22**] The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried;
[**23**] and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom.
[**24**] And he called out, `Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.'
[**25**] But Abraham said, `Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.
[**26**] And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'
[**27**] And he said, `Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house,
[**28**] for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.'
[**29**] But Abraham said, `They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.'
[**30**] And he said, `No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'
[**31**] He said to him, `If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"

Sunday, September 11, 2016
Don Morris: "the catholic spirit: how catholic?"
Luke 15:1-10 20 min. 18 sec.
[**1**] Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.
[**2**] And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
[**3**] So he told them this parable:
[**4**] "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it?
[**5**] And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
[**6**] And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, `Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.'
[**7**] Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
[**8**] "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?
[**9**] And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, `Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost.'
[**10**] Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Sunday, September 4, 2016
Don Morris: "the native hue of resolution vs. the pale cast of thought "
Luke 14:25-33 16 min. 44 sec.
[**25**] Now great multitudes accompanied him; and he turned and said to them,
[**26**] "If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.
[**27**] Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple.
[**28**] For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?
[**29**] Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,
[**30**] saying, `This man began to build, and was not able to finish.'
[**31**] Or what king, going to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and take counsel whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?
[**32**] And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends an embassy and asks terms of peace.
[**33**] So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

Sunday, August 28, 2016
Don Morris: "the paradox of place"
Luke 14:1,7-14 20 min. 51 sec.
[**1**] One sabbath when he went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they were watching him.

[**7**] Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he marked how they chose the places of honor, saying to them,
[**8**] "When you are invited by anyone to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest a more eminent man than you be invited by him;
[**9**] and he who invited you both will come and say to you, `Give place to this man,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.
[**10**] But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, `Friend, go up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you.
[**11**] For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."
[**12**] He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your kinsmen or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return, and you be repaid.
[**13**] But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind,
[**14**] and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Sunday, August 21, 2016
Don Morris: "interpreting interpretation"
Luke 13:10-17 21 min. 42 sec.
[**10**] Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath.
[**11**] And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself.
[**12**] And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity."
[**13**] And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God.
[**14**] But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day."
[**15**] Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it?
[**16**] And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?"
[**17**] As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Sunday, August 14, 2016
Don Morris: "on the way to court"
Luke 12:49-56 19 min. 35 sec.
[**49**] "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!
[**50**] I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how I am constrained until it is accomplished!
[**51**] Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division;
[**52**] for henceforth in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three;
[**53**] they will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against her mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."
[**54**] He also said to the multitudes, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, `A shower is coming'; and so it happens.
[**55**] And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, `There will be scorching heat'; and it happens.
[**56**] You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky; but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Sunday, August 7, 2016
Don Morris: "the rose of Angelus Silesius"
Luke 12:32-40 24 min. 12 sec.
[**32**] "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
[**33**] Sell your possessions and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.

[**34**] For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
[**35**] "Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning,
[**36**] and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks.
[**37**] Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them.
[**38**] If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants!
[**39**] But know this, that if the householder had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into.
[**40**] You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Sunday, July 31, 2016
Don Morris: "retiring to the forest?"
Luke 12:13-21 27 min. 56 sec.
[**13**] One of the multitude said to him, "Teacher, bid my brother divide the inheritance with me."
[**14**] But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or divider over you?"
[**15**] And he said to them, "Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."
[**16**] And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully;
[**17**] and he thought to himself, `What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?'
[**18**] And he said, `I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
[**19**] And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.'
[**20**] But God said to him, `Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'
[**21**] So is he who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

Sunday, July 17, 2016
Don Morris: "naming the Ultimate Concern"
Luke 10:38-42 21 min. 18 sec.
[**38**] Now as they went on their way, he entered a village; and a woman named Martha received him into her house.
[**39**] And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.
[**40**] But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."
[**41**] But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things;
[**42**] one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her."

Sunday, July 10, 2016
Don Morris: "Saint Augustine's question"
Luke 10:25-37 26 min. 25 sec.
[**25**] And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"
[**26**] He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?"
[**27**] And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."
[**28**] And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."
[**29**] But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"
[**30**] Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead.
[**31**] Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.
[**32**] So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.
[**33**] But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion,
[**34**] and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
[**35**] And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, `Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.'
[**36**] Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?"
[**37**] He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Sunday, July 3, 2016
Don Morris: "(heavenly) treasure in earthen vessels"
Luke 10:1-11, 16 23 min. 27 sec.
[**1**] After this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come.
[**2**] And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.
[**3**] Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.
[**4**] Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road.
[**5**] Whatever house you enter, first say, `Peace be to this house!'
[**6**] And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you.
[**7**] And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house.
[**8**] Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you;
[**9**] heal the sick in it and say to them, `The kingdom of God has come near to you.'
[**10**] But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say,
[**11**] `Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off against you; nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'

[**16**] "He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

Sunday, June 26, 2016
Don Morris: "an irresistible call to depart"
Luke 9:51:57-62 (children's sermon ends 22:02) 34 min. 16 sec.
[**51**] When the days drew near for him to be received up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.
[**52**] And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him;
[**53**] but the people would not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.
[**54**] And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to bid fire come down from heaven and consume them?"
[**55**] But he turned and rebuked them.
[**56**] And they went on to another village.
[**57**] As they were going along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

[**62**] Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Sunday, June 19, 2016
Don Morris: "the risk of engagement"
Luke 8:26-39 20 min. 02 sec.
[**26**] Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.
[**27**] And as he stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs.
[**28**] When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me."
[**29**] For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.)
[**30**] Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him.
[**31**] And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss.
[**32**] Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave.
[**33**] Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.
[**34**] When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country.
[**35**] Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.
[**36**] And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed.

[**37**] Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned.
[**38**] The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying,
[**39**] "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Sunday, June 5, 2016
Don Morris: "on getting one's life back"
Luke 7:11-17 20 min. 33 sec.
[**11**] Soon afterward he went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him.
[**12**] As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her.
[**13**] And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."
[**14**] And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."
[**15**] And the dead man sat up and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother.
[**16**] Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"
[**17**] And this report concerning him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

Sunday, May 15, 2016
Don Morris: "the human face of God"
John 14:8-17; 25-27 23 min. 18 sec.
[**8**] Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied."
[**9**] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father; how can you say, `Show us the Father'?
[**10**] Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.
[**11**] Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else believe me for the sake of the works themselves.
[**12**] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father.
[**13**] Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son;
[**14**] if you ask anything in my name, I will do it.
[**15**] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
[**16**] And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever,
[**17**] even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.

Sunday, May 8, 2016
Don Morris: "trinity or quaternity?"
John 17:20-26 21 min. 28 sec.
[**20**] "I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word,
[**21**] that they may all be one; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.
[**22**] The glory which thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,
[**23**] I in them and thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me.
[**24**] Father, I desire that they also, whom thou hast given me, may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which thou hast given me in thy love for me before the foundation of the world.
[**25**] O righteous Father, the world has not known thee, but I have known thee; and these know that thou hast sent me.
[**26**] I made known to them thy name, and I will make it known, that the love with which thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Sunday, May 1, 2016
Don Morris: "plenitude of the present"
John 14:23-29 13 min. 31 sec.
[**23**] Jesus answered him, "If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.
[**24**] He who does not love me does not keep my words; and the word which you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.
[**25**] "These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you.
[**26**] But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.
[**27**] Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.
[**28**] You heard me say to you, `I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I go to the Father; for the Father is greater than I.
[**29**] And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place, you may believe.

Sunday, April 24, 2016
Don Morris: "the Jesus legacy"
John 13:1-5 23 min. 07 sec.
[**1**] Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.
[**2**] And during supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him,
[**3**] Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God,
[**4**] rose from supper, laid aside his garments, and girded himself with a towel.

[**5**] Then he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded.

Sunday, April 17, 2016
Don Morris: "faith and (prevenient?) belonging"
John 10:22-30 22 min. 52 sec.
[**22**] It was the feast of the Dedication at Jerusalem;
[**23**] it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.
[**24**] So the Jews gathered round him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."
[**25**] Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness to me;
[**26**] but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.
[**27**] My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me;
[**28**] and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand.
[**29**] My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.
[**30**] I and the Father are one."

Sunday, April 10, 2016
Don Morris: "the interrogations of grace"
John 21:1-19 19 min. 05 sec.
[**1**] After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he revealed himself in this way.
[**2**] Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together.
[**3**] Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat; but that night they caught nothing.
[**4**] Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.
[**5**] Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any fish?" They answered him, "No."
[**6**] He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, for the quantity of fish.
[**7**] That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his clothes, for he was stripped for work, and sprang into the sea.
[**8**] But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.
[**9**] When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish lying on it, and bread.
[**10**] Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught."
[**11**] So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and although there were so many, the net was not torn.
[**12**] Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

[**13**] Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish.
[**14**] This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.
[**15**] When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."
[**16**] A second time he said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep."
[**17**] He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.
[**18**] Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you girded yourself and walked where you would; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish to go."
[**19**] (This he said to show by what death he was to glorify God.) And after this he said to him, "Follow me."

Sunday, April 3, 2016
Don Morris: "reflecting upon the gospel reflecting upon itself, or evangelical credibility"
John 20:19-31 12 min. 53 sec.
[**19**] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."
[**20**] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
[**21**] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."
[**22**] And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
[**23**] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
[**24**] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.
[**25**] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."
[**26**] Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you."
[**27**] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing."
[**28**] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
[**29**] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."
[**30**] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
[**31**] but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Sunday, March 27, 2016
Don Morris: "reading resurrection"
John 20:1-18 21 min. 23 sec.
[**1**] Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
[**2**] So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."
[**3**] Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb.
[**4**] They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first;
[**5**] and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.
[**6**] Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying,
[**7**] and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself.
[**8**] Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;
[**9**] for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.
[**10**] Then the disciples went back to their homes.
[**11**] But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb;
[**12**] and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.
[**13**] They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."
[**14**] Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus.
[**15**] Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."
[**16**] Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).
[**17**] Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."
[**18**] Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sunday, March 20, 2016
Don Morris: "near the fire"
Luke 19:28-40 20 min. 37 sec.
[28] And when he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.
[**29**] When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples,
[**30**] saying, "Go into the village opposite, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here.
[**31**] If any one asks you, `Why are you untying it?' you shall say this, `The Lord has need of it.'"

[**32**] So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them.
[**33**] And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"
[**34**] And they said, "The Lord has need of it."
[**35**] And they brought it to Jesus and throwing their garments on the colt they set Jesus upon it.
[**36**] And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road.
[**37**] As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen,
[**38**] saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"
[**39**] And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples."
[**40**] He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."

Sunday, March 13, 2016
Don Morris: "a thing of beauty, a joy forever"
John 12:1-8 (children's sermon-ends at 16 min. 30 sec.) 26 min. 02 sec.
[**1**] Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.
[**2**] There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him.
[**3**] Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment.
[**4**] But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said,
[**5**] "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"
[**6**] This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it.
[**7**] Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial.
[**8**] The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

Sunday, March 6, 2016
Don Morris: "worldly grace"
Luke 15: 1-3, 11-33 17 min. 57 sec.
[**1**] Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.
[**2**] And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
[**3**] So he told them this parable:

[**11**] And he said, "There was a man who had two sons;
[**12**] and the younger of them said to his father, `Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them.
[**13**] Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living.
[**14**] And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want.
[**15**] So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his

fields to feed swine.
[**16**] And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything.
[**17**] But when he came to himself he said, `How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger!
[**18**] I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;
[**19**] I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.'"
[**20**] And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.
[**21**] And the son said to him, `Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'
[**22**] But the father said to his servants, `Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet;
[**23**] and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry;
[**24**] for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.
[**25**] "Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.
[**26**] And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant.
[**27**] And he said to him, `Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.'
[**28**] But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,
[**29**] but he answered his father, `Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends.
[**30**] But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!'
[**31**] And he said to him, `Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.
[**32**] It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Sunday, February 28, 2016
Don Morris: "the fierce urgency of now"
Luke 13:1-9 21 min. 37 sec.
[1] There were some present at that very time who told him of the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
[**2**] And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered thus?
[**3**] I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.
[**4**] Or those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who dwelt in Jerusalem?
[**5**] I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."
[**6**] And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.
[**7**] And he said to the vinedresser, `Lo, these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?'

[**8**] And he answered him, `Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and put on manure.
[**9**] And if it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Sunday, February 21, 2016
Don Morris: "passersby"
Luke 13:31-35 18 min. 08 sec.
[**31**] At that very hour some Pharisees came, and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."
[**32**] And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, `Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course.
[**33**] Nevertheless I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following; for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.'
[**34**] O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!
[**35**] Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, `Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

Sunday, February 14, 2016
Don Morris: "a continuous Lent?"
Luke 4:1-13 20 min. 59 sec.
[**1**] And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit
[**2**] for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing in those days; and when they were ended, he was hungry.
[**3**] The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."
[**4**] And Jesus answered him, "It is written, `Man shall not live by bread alone.'"
[**5**] And the devil took him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time,
[**6**] and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory; for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.
[**7**] If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours."
[**8**] And Jesus answered him, "It is written, `You shall worship the Lord your God,
and him only shall you serve.'"
[**9**] And he took him to Jerusalem, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here;
[**10**] for it is written, `He will give his angels charge of you, to guard you,'
[**11**] and `On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"
[**12**] And Jesus answered him, "It is said, `You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"
[**13**] And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sunday, February 7, 2016
Don Morris: "transfiguration, transmogrification, transvaluation"
Luke 9:28-43 18 min. 29 sec.
[**28**] Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray.
[**29**] And as he was praying, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became dazzling white.
[**30**] And behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Elijah,
[**31**] who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem.
[**32**] Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, and when they wakened they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.
[**33**] And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah" -- not knowing what he said.
[**34**] As he said this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.
[**35**] And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"
[**36**] And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silence and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.
[**37**] On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him.
[**38**] And behold, a man from the crowd cried, "Teacher, I beg you to look upon my son, for he is my only child;
[**39**] and behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out; it convulses him till he foams, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him.
[**40**] And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not."
[**41**] Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here."
[**42**] While he was coming, the demon tore him and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.
[**43**] And all were astonished at the majesty of God. But while they were all marveling at everything he did, he said to his disciples,

Sunday, January 31, 2016
Don Morris: "commission (Part 2):Go, my songs"
Luke 4:21-30 23 min. 17 sec.
[**21**] So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, `Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.'
[**22**] And the servant said, `Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.'
[**23**] And the master said to the servant, `Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.
[**24**] For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"
[**25**] Now great multitudes accompanied him; and he turned and said to them,
[**26**] "If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.
[**27**] Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

[**28**] For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?
[**29**] Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,
[**30**] saying, `This man began to build, and was not able to finish.'

Sunday, January 24, 2016
Don Morris: "commission (Pt 1)"
Luke 4:14-21 20 min. 24 sec.
[**14**] And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee, and a report concerning him went out through all the surrounding country.
[**15**] And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.
[**16**] And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day. And he stood up to read;
[**17**] and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written,
[**18**] "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
[**19**] to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."
[**20**] And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.
[**21**] And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Sunday, January 17, 2016
Don Morris: "water pots and wine skins"
John 2:1-11 17 min. 12 sec.
[**1**] On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there;
[**2**] Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples.
[**3**] When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."
[**4**] And Jesus said to her, "O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come."
[**5**] His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
[**6**] Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.
[**7**] Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.
[**8**] He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast." So they took it.
[**9**] When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward of the feast called the bridegroom
[**10**] and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now."
[**11**] This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Sunday, January 10, 2016
Don Morris: "epiphany without baptism?"
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 19 min. 48 sec.
[**15**] As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ,
[**16**] John answered them all, "I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
[**17**] His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

[**21**] Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,
[**22**] and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Sunday, January 3, 2016
Don Morris: "one holy, catholic, apostolic [and heterogenous] Church"
Matthew 2:1-12 23 min. 37 sec.
[**1**] Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying,
[**2**] "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."
[**3**] When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;
[**4**] and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
[**5**] They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:
[**6**] `And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will govern my people Israel.'"
[**7**] Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared;
[**8**] and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."
[**9**] When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.
[**10**] When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy;
[**11**] and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.
[**12**] And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Sunday, December 27, 2015
Don Morris: "the scandal of particularity?"
Luke 2:41-52 25 min. 54 sec.
[**41**] Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover.
[**42**] And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom;
[**43**] and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it,
[**44**] but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances;
[**45**] and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him.
[**46**] After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions;
[**47**] and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.
[**48**] And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously."
[**49**] And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"
[**50**] And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them.
[**51**] And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.
[**52**] And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

Sunday, December 20, 2015
Don Morris: "letting Jesus be Jesus"
Luke 1:31-35 12 min. 57 sec.
[**31**] And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.
[**32**] He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High;
and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,
[**33**] and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever;
and of his kingdom there will be no end."
[**34**] And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?"
[**35**] And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you;
therefore the child to be born will be called holy,
the Son of God.

Sunday, December 13, 2015
Don Morris: "thinking greatly, erring greatly?"
Luke 3:7-18 20 min. 24 sec.
[**7**] He said therefore to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
[**8**] Bear fruits that befit repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, `We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

[**9**] Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."
[**10**] And the multitudes asked him, "What then shall we do?"
[**11**] And he answered them, "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise."
[**12**] Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"
[**13**] And he said to them, "Collect no more than is appointed you."
[**14**] Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Rob no one by violence or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."
[**15**] As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ,
[**16**] John answered them all, "I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
[**17**] His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
[**18**] So, with many other exhortations, he preached good news to the people.

Sunday, December 6, 2015
Don Morris: "more than a prophet"
Luke 3:1-6 18 min. 09 sec.
[**1**] In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene,
[**2**] in the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness;
[**3**] and he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
[**4**] As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
[**5**] Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be brought low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways shall be made smooth;
[**6**] and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Sunday, November 29, 2015
Don Morris: "to know or not to know"
Luke 21:25-36 23 min. 59 sec.
[**25**] "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves,
[**26**] men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
[**27**] And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

[**28**] Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."
[**29**] And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees;
[**30**] as soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near.
[**31**] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.
[**32**] Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all has taken place.
[**33**] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
[**34**] "But take heed to yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a snare;
[**35**] for it will come upon all who dwell upon the face of the whole earth.
[**36**] But watch at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of man."

Sunday, November 22, 2015
Don Morris: "interrogating the interrogation"
John 18:33-37 19 min. 59 sec.
[**33**] Pilate entered the praetorium again and called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"
[**34**] Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?"
[**35**] Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?"
[**36**] Jesus answered, "My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingship is not from the world."
[**37**] Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice."

Sunday, November 15, 2015
Don Morris: "when things fall apart"
Mark 13:1-8 20 min. 23 sec.
[**1**] And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!"
[**2**] And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another, that will not be thrown down."
[**3**] And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately,
[**4**] "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign when these things are all to be accomplished?"
[**5**] And Jesus began to say to them, "Take heed that no one leads you astray.
[**6**] Many will come in my name, saying, `I am he!' and they will lead many astray.
[**7**] And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is not yet.
[**8**] For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places, there will be famines; this is but the beginning of the birth-pangs.

Sunday, November 1, 2015
Don Morris: "resuscitation, resurrection, or renascence?"
John 11:32-44 20 min. 45 sec.
[**32**] Then Mary, when she came where Jesus was and saw him, fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."
[**33**] When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled;
[**34**] and he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."
[**35**] Jesus wept.
[**36**] So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"
[**37**] But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"
[**38**] Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb; it was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.
[**39**] Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."
[**40**] Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"
[**41**] So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.
[**42**] I knew that thou hearest me always, but I have said this on account of the people standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me."
[**43**] When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."
[**44**] The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with bandages, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Sunday, October 25, 2015
Don Morris: "bar Timean blindness"
Mark 10:46-52 15 min. 46 sec.
[**46**] And they came to Jericho; and as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside.
[**47**] And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"
[**48**] And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
[**49**] And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; rise, he is calling you."
[**50**] And throwing off his mantle he sprang up and came to Jesus.
[**51**] And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Master, let me receive my sight."
[**52**] And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

Sunday, October 18, 2015
Don Morris: "the prize of the high calling"
Mark 10:35-45 18 min. 53 sec.
[**35**] And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."
[**36**] And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?"
[**37**] And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."
[**38**] But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"
[**39**] And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized;
[**40**] but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."
[**41**] And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John.
[**42**] And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them.
[**43**] But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant,
[**44**] and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.
[**45**] For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Sunday, October 11, 2015
Don Morris: "having nothing, possessing everything"
Mark 10:17-31 20 min. 40 sec.
[**17**] And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
[**18**] And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.
[**19**] You know the commandments: `Do not kill, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'"
[**20**] And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth."
[**21**] And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."
[**22**] At that saying his countenance fell, and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.
[**23**] And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"
[**24**] And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!
[**25**] It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."
[**26**] And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?"
[**27**] Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God."
[**28**] Peter began to say to him, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you."

[**29**] Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel,
[**30**] who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.
[**31**] But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

Sunday, October 4, 2015
Don Morris: "prelapsarian marriage in a postlapsarian world"
Mark 10:2-16 17 min. 53 sec.
[**2**] And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"
[**3**] He answered them, "What did Moses command you?"
[**4**] They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to put her away."
[**5**] But Jesus said to them, "For your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment.
[**6**] But from the beginning of creation, `God made them male and female.'
[**7**] `For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,
[**8**] and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh.
[**9**] What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder."
[**10**] And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.
[**11**] And he said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her;
[**12**] and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."
[**13**] And they were bringing children to him, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them.
[**14**] But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God.
[**15**] Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."
[**16**] And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Sunday, September 27, 2015
Don Morris: "vital impetus (élan vital)"
Mark 9:38-50 23 min. 13 sec.
[**38**] John said to him, "Teacher, we saw a man casting out demons in your name, and we forbade him, because he was not following us."
[**39**] But Jesus said, "Do not forbid him; for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon after to speak evil of me.
[**40**] For he that is not against us is for us.
[**41**] For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ, will by no means lose his reward.
[**42**] "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung round his neck and he were thrown into the sea.
[**43**] And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.
[**45**] And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell.

[**47**] And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell,
[**48**] where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.
[**49**] For everyone will be salted with fire.
[**50**] Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its saltness, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves and be at peace with one another."

Sunday, September 20, 2015
Don Morris: "servants, lords, and lordly servants"
Mark 9:30-37 21 min. 27 sec.
[**30**] They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it;
[**31**] for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."
[**32**] But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to ask him.
[**33**] And they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?"
[**34**] But they were silent; for on the way they had discussed with one another who was the greatest.
[**35**] And he sat down and called the twelve; and he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."
[**36**] And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and taking him in his arms, he said to them,
[**37**] "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

Sunday, September 13, 2015
Don Morris: "an ablative estate"
Mark 8:27-38 22 min. 41 sec.
[**27**] And Jesus went on with his disciples, to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that I am?"
[**28**] And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others one of the prophets."
[**29**] And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."
[**30**] And he charged them to tell no one about him.
[**31**] And he began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
[**32**] And he said this plainly. And Peter took him and began to rebuke him.
[**33**] But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men."
[**34**] And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[**35**] For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.
[**36**] For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?

[**37**] For what can a man give in return for his life?
[**38**] For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sunday, September 6, 2015
Don Morris: "he that hath ears"
Mark 7:24-37 15 min. 25 sec.
[**24**] And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house, and would not have any one know it; yet he could not be hid.
[**25**] But immediately a woman, whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell down at his feet.
[**26**] Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.
[**27**] And he said to her, "Let the children first be fed, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."
[**28**] But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."
[**29**] And he said to her, "For this saying you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter."
[**30**] And she went home, and found the child lying in bed, and the demon gone.
[**31**] Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, through the region of the Decapolis.
[**32**] And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech; and they besought him to lay his hand upon him.
[**33**] And taking him aside from the multitude privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue;
[**34**] and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."
[**35**] And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.
[**36**] And he charged them to tell no one; but the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.
[**37**] And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."

Sunday, August 30, 2015
Don Morris: "the Word beyond words"
Mark 7:1-8 20 min. 33 sec.
[**1**] Now when the Pharisees gathered together to him, with some of the scribes, who had come from Jerusalem,
[**2**] they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands defiled, that is, unwashed.
[**3**] (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, observing the tradition of the elders;
[**4**] and when they come from the market place, they do not eat unless they purify themselves; and there are many other traditions which they observe, the washing of cups and pots and vessels of bronze.)
[**5**] And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to

the tradition of the elders, but eat with hands defiled?"
[**6**] And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, `This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
[**7**] in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'
[**8**] You leave the commandment of God, and hold fast the tradition of men."

Sunday, August 23, 2015
Don Morris: "hard sayings, hard questions, hard work"
John 6:56-69 17 min. 40 sec.
[**59**] This he said in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.
[**60**] Many of his disciples, when they heard it, said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"
[**61**] But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples murmured at it, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?
[**62**] Then what if you were to see the Son of man ascending where he was before?
[**63**] It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.
[**64**] But there are some of you that do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who those were that did not believe, and who it was that would betray him.
[**65**] And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."
[**66**] After this many of his disciples drew back and no longer went about with him.
[**67**] Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?"
[**68**] Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life;
[**69**] and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

Sunday, August 16, 2015
Don Morris: "in search of holy communion"
John 6:51-58 18 min. 30 sec.
[**51**] I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh."
[**52**] The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"
[**53**] So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you;
[**54**] he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.
[**55**] For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
[**56**] He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.
[**57**] As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me.
[**58**] This is the bread which came down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever."
Sunday, August 9, 2015
Don Morris: "above, below, and in between"

John 6:35; 41-51 18 min. 59 sec.
[**35**] Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst.

[**41**] The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven."
[**42**] They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, `I have come down from heaven'?"
[**43**] Jesus answered them, "Do not murmur among yourselves.
[**44**] No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.
[**45**] It is written in the prophets, `And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.
[**46**] Not that anyone has seen the Father except him who is from God; he has seen the Father.
[**47**] Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.
[**48**] I am the bread of life.
[**49**] Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.
[**50**] This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat of it and not die.
[**51**] I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Sunday, August 2, 2015
Don Morris: "the Johannine sacrament, or *the bread of life*"
John 6:24-35 14 min. 03 sec.
[**24**] So when the people saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.
[**25**] When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"
[**26**] Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.
[**27**] Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man will give to you; for on him has God the Father set his seal."
[**28**] Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"
[**29**] Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."
[**30**] So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see, and believe you? What work do you perform?
[**31**] Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, `He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"
[**32**] Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.
[**33**] For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."
[**34**] They said to him, "Lord, give us this bread always."
[**35**] Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst.

Sunday, July 26, 2015
Don Morris: "understanding bread, or the bread of understanding"
John 6:1-21 23 min. 58 sec.
[**1**] After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias.
[**2**] And a multitude followed him, because they saw the signs which he did on those who were diseased.
[**3**] Jesus went up on the mountain, and there sat down with his disciples.
[**4**] Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand.
[**5**] Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a multitude was coming to him, Jesus said to Philip, "How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?"
[**6**] This he said to test him, for he himself knew what he would do.
[**7**] Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little."
[**8**] One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him,
[**9**] "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are they among so many?"
[**10**] Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place; so the men sat down, in number about five thousand.
[**11**] Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.
[**12**] And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, that nothing may be lost."
[**13**] So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten.
[**14**] When the people saw the sign which he had done, they said, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world!"
[**15**] Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.
[**16**] When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea,
[**17**] got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.
[**18**] The sea rose because a strong wind was blowing.
[**19**] When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat. They were frightened,
[**20**] but he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."
[**21**] Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

Sunday, July 19, 2015
Don Morris: "bread and stone: reflections upon the care of souls"
Mark 6:30-34;53-56 21 min. 22 sec.
[**30**] The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught.
[**31**] And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place, and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.
[**32**] And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves.

[**33**] Now many saw them going, and knew them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them.
[**34**] As he went ashore he saw a great throng, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

[**53**] And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret, and moored to the shore.
[**54**] And when they got out of the boat, immediately the people recognized him,
[**55**] and ran about the whole neighborhood and began to bring sick people on their pallets to any place where they heard he was.
[**56**] And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and besought him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment; and as many as touched it were made well.

Sunday, July 12, 2015
Don Morris: "the death and resurrection of John the Baptist"
Mark 6:14-29 18 min. 24 sec.
[**14**] King Herod heard of it; for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him."
[**15**] But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old."
[**16**] But when Herod heard of it he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."
[**17**] For Herod had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; because he had married her.
[**18**] For John said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."
[**19**] And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not,
[**20**] for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly.
[**21**] But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee.
[**22**] For when Herodias' daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it."
[**23**] And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom."
[**24**] And she went out, and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the baptizer."
[**25**] And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."
[**26**] And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her.
[**27**] And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison,
[**28**] and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother.
[**29**] When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Sunday, June 28, 2015
Don Morris: "if they didn't laugh: reflections on the skepticism of faith"
Mark 5:21-43 24 min. 02 sec.

[**21**] And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him; and he was beside the sea.
[**22**] Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and seeing him, he fell at his feet,
[**23**] and besought him, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live."
[**24**] And he went with him. And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him.
[**25**] And there was a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years,
[**26**] and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse.
[**27**] She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment.
[**28**] For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I shall be made well."
[**29**] And immediately the hemorrhage ceased; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease.
[**30**] And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone forth from him, immediately turned about in the crowd, and said, "Who touched my garments?"
[**31**] And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, `Who touched me?'"
[**32**] And he looked around to see who had done it.
[**33**] But the woman, knowing what had been done to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him, and told him the whole truth.
[**34**] And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and be healed of your disease."
[**35**] While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?"
[**36**] But ignoring what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe."
[**37**] And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James.
[**38**] When they came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, he saw a tumult, and people weeping and wailing loudly.
[**39**] And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a tumult and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping."
[**40**] And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was.
[**41**] Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi"; which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise."
[**42**] And immediately the girl got up and walked (she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement.
[**43**] And he strictly charged them that no one should know this and told them to give her something to eat.

Sunday, June 21, 2015
Don Morris: "seminar on the sea"
Mark 4:35-41 16 min. 20 sec.
[**35**] On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side."
[**36**] And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him.
[**37**] And a great storm of wind arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already filling.
[**38**] But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?"
[**39**] And he awoke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.
[**40**] He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?"
[**41**] And they were filled with awe, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?"

Sunday, June 14, 2015
Don Morris: "between seedtime and harvest"
Mark 4:26-34 21 min. 05 sec.
[**26**] And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed upon the ground,
[**27**] and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he knows not how.
[**28**] The earth produces of itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.
[**29**] But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."
[**30**] And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it?
[**31**] It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth;
[**32**] yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."
[**33**] With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it;
[**34**] he did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

Sunday, June 7, 2015
Don Morris: "Much Madness is divinest Sense-"
Mark 3:20-35 18 min.
[**20**] and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat.
[**21**] And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for people were saying, "He is beside himself."
[**22**] And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Be-el'zebul, and by the prince of demons he casts out the demons."
[**23**] And he called them to him, and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?
[**24**] If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.
[**25**] And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.
[**26**] And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to

an end.
[**27**] But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man; then indeed he may plunder his house.
[**28**] "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter;
[**29**] but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" --
[**30**] for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."
[**31**] And his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside they sent to him and called him.
[**32**] And a crowd was sitting about him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, asking for you."
[**33**] And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?"
[**34**] And looking around on those who sat about him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!
[**35**] Whoever does the will of God is my brother, and sister, and mother."

Sunday, May 31, 2015
Don Morris: "in defense of a Nicodemean spirituality"
John 3:1-17 24 min. 33 sec.
[**1**] Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.
[**2**] This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him."
[**3**] Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
[**4**] Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"
[**5**] Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
[**6**] That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
[**7**] Do not marvel that I said to you, `You must be born anew.'
[**8**] The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."
[**9**] Nicodemus said to him, "How can this be?"
[**10**] Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand this?
[**11**] Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony.
[**12**] If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?
[**13**] No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man.
[**14**] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,
[**15**] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."
[**16**] For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
[**17**] For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Sunday, May 3, 2015
Don Morris: "vitality"
John 15:1-8 11 min. 48 sec.
[**1**] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.
[**2**] Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
[**3**] You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you.
[**4**] Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
[**5**] I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
[**6**] If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned.
[**7**] If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.
[**8**] By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.

Sunday, April 26, 2015
Don Morris: "the God of love my shepherd is"
John 10:11-18 19 min. 08 sec.
[**11**] I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
[**12**] He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.
[**13**] He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep.
[**14**] I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me,
[**15**] as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.
[**16**] And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd.
[**17**] For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again.
[**18**] No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again; this charge I have received from my Father."

Sunday, April 19, 2015
Don Morris: "the closing of the religious mind"
Luke 24:36-48 16 min. 46 sec.
[**36**] As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them.
[**37**] But they were startled and frightened and supposed that they saw a spirit.
[**38**] And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts?
[**39**] See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have."
[**41**] And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"
[**42**] They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
[**43**] and he took it and ate before them.
[**44**] Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be

fulfilled."
[**45**] Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
[**46**] and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,
[**47**] and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
[**48**] You are witnesses of these things.

Sunday, April 12, 2015
Don Morris: "if the thought in you arises *the word of the Master is ended*"
John 20:19-31 21 min. 40 sec.
[**19**] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."
[**20**] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
[**21**] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."
[**22**] And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
[**23**] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
[**24**] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.
[**25**] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."
[**26**] Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you."
[**27**] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless but believing."
[**28**] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
[**29**] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."
[**30**] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
[**31**] but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Sunday, April 5, 2015
Don Morris: "making sense of Resurrection"
John 20:1-18 17 min. 48 sec.
[**1**] Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
[**2**] So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

[**3**] Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb.
[**4**] They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first;
[**5**] and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.
[**6**] Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying,
[**7**] and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself.
[**8**] Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;
[**9**] for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.
[**10**] Then the disciples went back to their homes.
[**11**] But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb;
[**12**] and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.
[**13**] They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."
[**14**] Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus.
[**15**] Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."
[**16**] Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).
[**17**] Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."
[**18**] Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sunday, March 29, 2015
Don Morris: "the last question"
Mark (passion narrative) 31 min. 03 sec.

Sunday, March 22, 2015, 11am Service
Don Morris: "a condition of complete simplicity (costing not less than everything)"
John 12:20-33 18 min. 13 sec.
[**20**] Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks.
[**21**] So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."
[**22**] Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew went with Philip and they told Jesus.
[**23**] And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified.
[**24**] Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
[**25**] He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
[**26**] If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

[**27**] "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? `Father, save me from this hour'? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour.
[**28**] Father, glorify thy name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."
[**29**] The crowd standing by heard it and said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."
[**30**] Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.
[**31**] Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out;
[**32**] and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself."
[**33**] He said this to show by what death he was to die.

Sunday, March 15, 2015
Don Morris: "if the light that is in thee be darkness"
John 3:14- 21 15 min. 06 sec.
[**14**] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,
[**15**] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."
[**16**] For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
[**17**] For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.
[**18**] He who believes in him is not condemned; he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.
[**19**] And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
[**20**] For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.
[**21**] But he who does what is true comes to the light, that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been wrought in God.

Sunday, March 8, 2015
Don Morris: "the scared knowledge of death"
John 2:13-22 21 min. 33 sec.
[**13**] The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
[**14**] In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the moneychangers at their business.
[**15**] And making a whip of cords, he drove them all, with the sheep and oxen, out of the temple; and he poured out the coins of the moneychangers and overturned their tables.
[**16**] And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; you shall not make my Father's house a house of trade."
[**17**] His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for thy house will consume me."
[**18**] The Jews then said to him, "What sign have you to show us for doing this?"
[**19**] Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."
[**20**] The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?"
[**21**] But he spoke of the temple of his body.

[**22**] When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

Sunday, March 1, 2015
Don Morris: "at the heart of the text at the heart of Lent"
Mark 8:31-38 16 min. 59 sec.
[**31**] And he began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
[**32**] And he said this plainly. And Peter took him and began to rebuke him.
[**33**] But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men."
[**34**] And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[**35**] For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.
[**36**] For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?
[**37**] For what can a man give in return for his life?
[**38**] For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sunday, February 22, 2015
Don Morris: "a reasoned humility"
Mark 1:9-15 24 min. 13 sec.
[**9**] In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
[**10**] And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove;
[**11**] and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."
[**12**] The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.
[**13**] And he was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him.
[**14**] Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,
[**15**] and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."

Sunday, February 15, 2015
Don Morris: "the humanity of God?"
Mark 9:2-9 17 min. 48 sec.
[**2**] And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves; and he was transfigured before them,
[**3**] and his garments became glistening, intensely white, as no fuller on earth could bleach them.
[**4**] And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses; and they were talking to Jesus.
[**5**] And Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for

you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."
[**6**] For he did not know what to say, for they were exceedingly afraid.
[**7**] And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him."
[**8**] And suddenly looking around they no longer saw any one with them but Jesus only.
[**9**] And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of man should have risen from the dead.

Sunday, February 8, 2015
Don Morris: "an itinerant mind"
Mark 1:29-39 23 min. 04 sec.
[**29**] And immediately he left the synagogue, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.
[**30**] Now Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her.
[**31**] And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them.
[**32**] That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.
[**33**] And the whole city was gathered together about the door.
[**34**] And he healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.
[**35**] And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed.
[**36**] And Simon and those who were with him pursued him,
[**37**] and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is searching for you."
[**38**] And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out."
[**39**] And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sunday, January 25, 2015
Don Morris: "henceforward"
Mark 1:14-16 19 min. 52 sec.
[**14**] Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,
[**15**] and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."
[**16**] And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen.

Sunday, January 18, 2015
Don Morris: "archetypical epiphany"
John 1:43-51 19 min. 27 sec.
[**43**] The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."
[**44**] Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.
[**45**] Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law

and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."
[**46**] Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."
[**47**] Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!"
[**48**] Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."
[**49**] Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"
[**50**] Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these."
[**51**] And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Sunday, January 11, 2015
Don Morris: "the paradox of epiphany"
Mark 1:4-11 20 min. 18 sec.
[**4**] John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
[**5**] And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
[**6**] Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey.
[**7**] And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.
[**8**] I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
[**9**] In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
[**10**] And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove;
[**11**] and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Sunday, January 4, 2015
Don Morris: "grass roots ecumenicity"
Matthew 2:1-12 13 min. 19 sec.
[**1**] Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying,
[**2**] "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."
[**3**] When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;
[**4**] and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
[**5**] They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:
[**6**] `And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will govern my people Israel.'"
[**7**] Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star

appeared;
[**8**] and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."
[**9**] When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.
[**10**] When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy;
[**11**] and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.
[**12**] And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Sunday, December 14, 2014
Don Morris: "poets light but lamps"
John 1:6-10; 19-28 18 min. 51 sec.
[**6**] There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
[**7**] He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him.
[**8**] He was not the light but came to bear witness to the light.
[**9**] The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world.
[**10**] He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not.

[**9**] The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world.
[**10**] He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not.
[**11**] He came to his own home, and his own people received him not.
[**12**] But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God;
[**13**] who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
[**14**] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.
[**15**] (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, `He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'")
[**16**] And from his fulness have we all received, grace upon grace.
[**17**] For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
[**18**] No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.
[**19**] And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"
[**20**] He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."
[**21**] And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" And he answered, "No."
[**22**] They said to him then, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"
[**23**] He said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, `Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."
[**24**] Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.

[**25**] They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?"
[**26**] John answered them, "I baptize with water; but among you stands one whom you do not know,
[**27**] even he who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie."
[**28**] This took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Sunday, December 7, 2014
Don Morris: "the beginning of the beginning"
Mark 1:1-8 9 min. 54 sec.
[**1**] The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
[**2**] As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face,
who shall prepare thy way;
[**3**] the voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight -- "
[**4**] John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
[**5**] And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
[**6**] Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey.
[**7**] And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.
[**8**] I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Sunday, November 23, 2014
Don Morris: "left, right, and center"
Matthew 25:31-46 13 min. 29 sec.
[**31**] "When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.
[**32**] Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
[**33**] and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left.
[**34**] Then the King will say to those at his right hand, `Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;
[**35**] for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
[**36**] I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'
[**37**] Then the righteous will answer him, `Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink?
[**38**] And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee?
[**39**] And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?'

[**40**] And the King will answer them, `Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'
[**41**] Then he will say to those at his left hand, `Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;
[**42**] for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
[**43**] I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'
[**44**] Then they also will answer, `Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?'
[**45**] Then he will answer them, `Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.'
[**46**] And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sunday, November 16, 2014
Don Morris: "the irony of faith"
Matthew 25:14-30 18 min. 28 sec.
[**14**] "For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property;
[**15**] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.
[**16**] He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more.
[**17**] So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more.
[**18**] But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.
[**19**] Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.
[**20**] And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, `Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.'
[**21**] His master said to him, `Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'
[**22**] And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, `Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.'
[**23**] His master said to him, `Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'
[**24**] He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, `Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow;
[**25**] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'
[**26**] But his master answered him, `You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed?
[**27**] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.
[**28**] So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.
[**29**] For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

[**30**] And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'

Sunday, November 2, 2014
Don Morris: "perennial students?"
Matthew 23:1-12 13 min. 50 sec.
[**1**] Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples,
[**2**] "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat;
[**3**] so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice.
[**4**] They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger.
[**5**] They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long,
[**6**] and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues,
[**7**] and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men.
[**8**] But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren.
[**9**] And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven.
[**10**] Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ.
[**11**] He who is greatest among you shall be your servant;
[**12**] whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Sunday, October 26, 2014
Don Morris: "What Jesus thought about what was thought about Jesus "
Matthew 22:34-46 20 min. 30 sec.
[**34**] But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together.
[**35**] And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him.
[**36**] "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"
[**37**] And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
[**38**] This is the great and first commandment.
[**39**] And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
[**40**] On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."
[**41**] Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question,
[**42**] saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David."
[**43**] He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,
[**44**] `The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
till I put thy enemies under thy feet'?
[**45**] If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?"
[**46**] And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Sunday, October 19, 2014
Don Morris: "Jesus and the Fourth Philosophy "
Matthew 22:15-22 15 min. 50 sec.
[**15**] Then the Pharisees went and took counsel how to entangle him in his talk.
[**16**] And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men.
[**17**] Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"
[**18**] But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites?
[**19**] Show me the money for the tax." And they brought him a coin.
[**20**] And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?"
[**21**] They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
[**22**] When they heard it, they marveled; and they left him and went away.

Sunday, October 5, 2014
Don Morris: "the love song of Jesus of Nazareth"
Matthew 21: 33-46 12 min. 26 sec.
[**33**] "Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country.
[**34**] When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit;
[**35**] and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.
[**36**] Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them.
[**37**] Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, `They will respect my son.'
[**38**] But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, `This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.'
[**39**] And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.
[**40**] When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"
[**41**] They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."
[**42**] Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: `The very stone which the builders rejected
has become the head of the corner;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes'?
[**43**] Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it."
[**45**] When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.
[**46**] But when they tried to arrest him, they feared the multitudes, because they held him to be a prophet.

Sunday, September 28, 2014
Don Morris: "the question of the question of authority"
Matthew 21: 23-32 16 min. 24 sec.
[**23**] And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"
[**24**] Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you a question; and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things.
[**25**] The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven or from men?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, `From heaven,' he will say to us, `Why then did you not believe him?'
[**26**] But if we say, `From men,' we are afraid of the multitude; for all hold that John was a prophet."
[**27**] So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.
[**28**] "What do you think? A man had two sons; and he went to the first and said, `Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'
[**29**] And he answered, `I will not'; but afterward he repented and went.
[**30**] And he went to the second and said the same; and he answered, `I go, sir,' but did not go.
[**31**] Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.
[**32**] For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots believed him; and even when you saw it, you did not afterward repent and believe him.

Sunday, September 21, 2014
Don Morris: "the stages of life"
Matthew 20:1-16 18 min. 42 sec.
[**1**] "For the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.
[**2**] After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
[**3**] And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place;
[**4**] and to them he said, `You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went.
[**5**] Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same.
[**6**] And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing; and he said to them, `Why do you stand here idle all day?'
[**7**] They said to him, `Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, `You go into the vineyard too.'
[**8**] And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, `Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.'
[**9**] And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.
[**10**] Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.
[**11**] And on receiving it they grumbled at the householder,
[**12**] saying, `These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have

borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'
[**13**] But he replied to one of them, `Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?
[**14**] Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you.
[**15**] Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?'
[**16**] So the last will be first, and the first last."

Sunday, September 7, 2014
Don Morris: "order - but not too much"
Matthew 18:15-20 15 min. 42 sec.
[**15**] "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.
[**16**] But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.
[**17**] If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.
[**18**] Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
[**19**] Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.
[**20**] For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Sunday, August 31, 2014
Don Morris: "day by day, hour by hour"
Matthew 16:21-27 13min. 31 sec.
[**21**] From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
[**22**] And Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you."
[**23**] But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men."
[**24**] Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[**25**] For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
[**26**] For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?
[**27**] For the Son of man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay every man for what he has done.

Sunday, August 24, 2014
Don Morris: "Blest order,..."
Matthew 16:13-20 18 min. 32 sec.
[**13**] Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?"
[**14**] And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
[**15**] He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
[**16**] Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
[**17**] And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.
[**18**] And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.
[**19**] I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."
[**20**] Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Sunday, August 17, 2014
Don Morris: "faith and xenophobia"
Matthew 15:21-28 15min. 14 sec.
[**21**] And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.
[**22**] And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon."
[**23**] But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us."
[**24**] He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."
[**25**] But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."
[**26**] And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."
[**27**] She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."
[**28**] Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Sunday, August 3, 2014
Don Morris: "parables of eating, or eating parables"
Matthew 14:13-21 15min. 56 sec.
[**13**] Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a lonely place apart. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.
[**14**] As he went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick.
[**15**] When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves."
[**16**] Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."
[**17**] They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish."

[**18**] And he said, "Bring them here to me."
[**19**] Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.
[**20**] And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over.
[**21**] And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Sunday, July 20, 2014
Don Morris: "non-apocalyptic solutions to insuperable problems"
Matthew 13:24-30 20 min. 41 sec.
[**24**] Another parable he put before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field;
[**25**] but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away.
[**26**] So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.
[**27**] And the servants of the householder came and said to him, `Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?'
[**28**] He said to them, `An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, `Then do you want us to go and gather them?'
[**29**] But he said, `No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them.
[**30**] Let both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Sunday, July 13, 2014
Don Morris: "the parable of the parable"
Matthew 13:1-19;18-23 17 min. 17 sec.
[**1**] That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.
[**2**] And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach.
[**3**] And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow.
[**4**] And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.
[**5**] Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,
[**6**] but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away.
[**7**] Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.
[**8**] Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
[**9**] He who has ears, let him hear."
[**10**] Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?"
[**11**] And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.
[**12**] For to him who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away.
[**13**] This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do

not hear, nor do they understand.
[**14**] With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah which says: `You shall indeed hear but never understand,
and you shall indeed see but never perceive.
[**15**] For this people's heart has grown dull,
and their ears are heavy of hearing,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should perceive with their eyes,
and hear with their ears,
and understand with their heart,
and turn for me to heal them.'
[**16**] But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.
[**17**] Truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.
[**18**] "Hear then the parable of the sower.
[**19**] When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in his heart; this is what was sown along the path.
[**20**] As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
[**21**] yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.
[**22**] As for what was sown among thorns, this is he who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the delight in riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.
[**23**] As for what was sown on good soil, this is he who hears the word and understands it; he indeed bears fruit, and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Sunday, June 29, 2014
Don Morris: "little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness"
Matthew 10:40-42 21 min. 10 sec.
[**40**] "He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives him who sent me.
[**41**] He who receives a prophet because he is a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward, and he who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.
[**42**] And whoever gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

Sunday, June 22, 2014
Don Morris: "servants, disciples, friends, ---scribes?"
Matthew 10: 24-39 19 min. 32 sec.
[**24**] "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master;
[**25**] it is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.
[**26**] "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered that will not be revealed or hidden that will

not be known.
[**27**] What I tell you in the dark, utter in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim upon the housetops.
[**28**] And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
[**29**] Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father's will.
[**30**] But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.
[**31**] Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.
[**32**] So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven;
[**33**] but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.
[**34**] "Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.
[**35**] For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
[**36**] and a man's foes will be those of his own household.
[**37**] He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;
[**38**] and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
[**39**] He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake will find it.

Sunday, June 15, 2014
Don Morris: "the doubt in honest faith"
Matthew 28:16-20 17min. 33 sec.
[**16**] Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.
[**17**] And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted.
[**18**] And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
[**19**] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
[**20**] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

Sunday, June 1, 2014
Don Morris: "from the words of Jesus to the language of the Spirit"
John 17:1-11 13 min. 26 sec.
[**1**] When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee,
[**2**] since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him.
[**3**] And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.
[**4**] I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do;
[**5**] and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee

before the world was made.
[**6**] "I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word.
[**7**] Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee;
[**8**] for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me.
[**9**] I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine;
[**10**] all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them.
[**11**] And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

Sunday, May 25, 2014
Don Morris: "love, and be silent"
John 14: 15-21 19 min. 02 sec.
[**15**] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
[**16**] And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever,
[**17**] even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.
[**18**] "I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you.
[**19**] Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more, but you will see me; because I live, you will live also.
[**20**] In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.
[**21**] He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Sunday, May 18, 2014
Don Morris: "the difference a preposition can make"
John 14:1-14 22 min. 06 sec.
[**1**] "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me.
[**2**] In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
[**3**] And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.
[**4**] And you know the way where I am going."
[**5**] Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"
[**6**] Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.
[**7**] If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; henceforth you know him and have seen him."
[**8**] Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied."
[**9**] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father; how can you say, `Show us the Father'?

[**10**] Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.
[**11**] Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else believe me for the sake of the works themselves.
[**12**] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father.
[**13**] Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son;
[**14**] if you ask anything in my name, I will do it.

Sunday, May 11, 2014
Don Morris: "becoming voice"
John 10:1-10 (children's sermon) 20 min. 37 sec.
[**1**] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber;
[**2**] but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
[**3**] To him the gatekeeper opens; the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
[**4**] When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.
[**5**] A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."
[**6**] This figure Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.
[**7**] So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.
[**8**] All who came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not heed them.
[**9**] I am the door; if anyone enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.
[**10**] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Sunday, May 4, 2014
Don Morris: "burning hearts"
Luke 24:13-25 20 min. 54 sec.
[**13**] That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,
[**14**] and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.
[**15**] While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.
[**16**] But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.
[**17**] And he said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad.
[**18**] Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"
[**19**] And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,

[**20**] and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death and crucified him.
[**21**] But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since this happened.
[**22**] Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning
[**23**] and did not find his body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.
[**24**] Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see."
[**25**] And he said to them, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!

Sunday, April 27, 2014
Don Morris: "faith and distance"
John 20: 19-31 19 min. 11 sec.
[**19**] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."
[**20**] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
[**21**] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."
[**22**] And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
[**23**] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
[**24**] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.
[**25**] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."
[**26**] Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you."
[**27**] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless but believing."
[**28**] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
[**29**] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."
[**30**] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
[**31**] but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Sunday, April 20, 2014
Don Morris: "making sense of the Resurrection"
Matthew 28:1-10 19min. 30 sec.
[**1**] Now after the sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulchre.
[**2**] And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat upon it.
[**3**] His appearance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow.
[**4**] And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men.
[**5**] But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.
[**6**] He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.
[**7**] Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. Lo, I have told you."
[**8**] So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples.
[**9**] And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Hail!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.
[**10**] Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Sunday, April 13, 2014
Don Morris: "yet"
Matthew 27:11-54 26 min. 43 sec.
[**11**] Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so."
[**12**] But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer.
[**13**] Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?"
[**14**] But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge; so that the governor wondered greatly.
[**15**] Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted.
[**16**] And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas.
[**17**] So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?"
[**18**] For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up.
[**19**] Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream."
[**20**] Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.
[**21**] The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."
[**22**] Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified."
[**23**] And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified."
[**24**] So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took

water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."
[**25**] And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!"
[**26**] Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.
[**27**] Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him.
[**28**] And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him,
[**29**] and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"
[**30**] And they spat upon him and took the reed and struck him on the head.
[**31**] And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him.
[**32**] As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross.
[**33**] And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull),
[**34**] they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.
[**35**] And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots;
[**36**] then they sat down and kept watch over him there.
[**37**] And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews."
[**38**] Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.
[**39**] And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads
[**40**] and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."
[**41**] So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying,
[**42**] "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.
[**43**] He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, `I am the Son of God.'"
[**44**] And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.
[**45**] Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.
[**46**] And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
[**47**] And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "This man is calling Elijah."
[**48**] And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink.
[**49**] But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."
[**50**] And Jesus cried again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.
[**51**] And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split;
[**52**] the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised,
[**53**] and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

[**54**] When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

Sunday, April 6, 2014
Don Morris: "In Praise of Darkness"
John 11:1-45 23min. 25 sec.
[**1**] Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.
[**2**] It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill.
[**3**] So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."
[**4**] But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness is not unto death; it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by means of it."
[**5**] Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.
[**6**] So when he heard that he was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.
[**7**] Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go into Judea again."
[**8**] The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were but now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"
[**9**] Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.
[**10**] But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."
[**11**] Thus he spoke, and then he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awake him out of sleep."
[**12**] The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."
[**13**] Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep.
[**14**] Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead;
[**15**] and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."
[**16**] Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."
[**17**] Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.
[**18**] Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off,
[**19**] and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.
[**20**] When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary sat in the house.
[**21**] Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.
[**22**] And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."
[**23**] Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."
[**24**] Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
[**25**] Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,
[**26**] and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"
[**27**] She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."
[**28**] When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying quietly, "The Teacher is

here and is calling for you."
[**29**] And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him.
[**30**] Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him.
[**31**] When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.
[**32**] Then Mary, when she came where Jesus was and saw him, fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."
[**33**] When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled;
[**34**] and he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."
[**35**] Jesus wept.
[**36**] So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"
[**37**] But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"
[**38**] Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb; it was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.
[**39**] Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."
[**40**] Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"
[**41**] So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.
[**42**] I knew that thou hearest me always, but I have said this on account of the people standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me."
[**43**] When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."
[**44**] The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with bandages, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."
[**45**] Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him;

Sunday, March 30, 2014
Don Morris: "through a glass darkly"
John 9-1-41 16 min. 07 sec.
[**1**] As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth.
[**2**] And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"
[**3**] Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him.
[**4**] We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work.
[**5**] As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."
[**6**] As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay,
[**7**] saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

[**8**] The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?"
[**9**] Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man."
[**10**] They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"
[**11**] He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, `Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight."
[**12**] They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."
[**13**] They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.
[**14**] Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.
[**15**] The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."
[**16**] Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them.
[**17**] So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."
[**18**] The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight,
[**19**] and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"
[**20**] His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;
[**21**] but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself."
[**22**] His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.
[**23**] Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."
[**24**] So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner."
[**25**] He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see."
[**26**] They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"
[**27**] He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?"
[**28**] And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.
[**29**] We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."
[**30**] The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.
[**31**] We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.
[**32**] Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.
[**33**] If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."
[**34**] They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.
[**35**] Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the

Son of man?"
[**36**] He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"
[**37**] Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you."
[**38**] He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.
[**39**] Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."
[**40**] Some of the Pharisees near him heard this, and they said to him, "Are we also blind?"
[**41**] Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, `We see,' your guilt remains.

Sunday, March 23, 2014
Don Morris: "the piety of inquiry (Pt. 2)"
John 4: 5-42 21 min. 10 sec.
[**5**] So he came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
[**6**] Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.
[**7**] There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
[**8**] For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.
[**9**] The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.
[**10**] Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, `Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."
[**11**] The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water?
[**12**] Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?"
[**13**] Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again,
[**14**] but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
[**15**] The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."
[**16**] Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."
[**17**] The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, `I have no husband';
[**18**] for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly."
[**19**] The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet.
[**20**] Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship."
[**21**] Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.
[**22**] You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.
[**23**] But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him.

[**24**] God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
[**25**] The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things."
[**26**] Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."
[**27**] Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do you wish?" or, "Why are you talking with her?"
[**28**] So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people,
[**29**] "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?"
[**30**] They went out of the city and were coming to him.
[**31**] Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."
[**32**] But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know."
[**33**] So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him food?"
[**34**] Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work.
[**35**] Do you not say, `There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest.
[**36**] He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.
[**37**] For here the saying holds true, `One sows and another reaps.'
[**38**] I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."
[**39**] Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did."
[**40**] So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.
[**41**] And many more believed because of his word.
[**42**] They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

Sunday, March 16, 2014
Don Morris: "the piety of inquiry (Pt. 1)"
John 3:1-17 21 min. 45 sec.
[**1**] Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.
[**2**] This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him."
[**3**] Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
[**4**] Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"
[**5**] Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
[**6**] That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
[**7**] Do not marvel that I said to you, `You must be born anew.'
[**8**] The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

[**9**] Nicodemus said to him, "How can this be?"
[**10**] Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand this?
[**11**] Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony.
[**12**] If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?
[**13**] No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man.
[**14**] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,
[**15**] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."
[**16**] For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
[**17**] For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Sunday, March 9, 2014
Don Morris: "temptation demythologized?"
Matthew 4:1-11 20min. 43 sec.
[**1**] Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
[**2**] And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry.
[**3**] And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."
[**4**] But he answered, "It is written, `Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"
[**5**] Then the devil took him to the holy city, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple,
[**6**] and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, `He will give his angels charge of you,'
and `On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"
[**7**] Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, `You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"
[**8**] Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them;
[**9**] and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."
[**10**] Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! for it is written, `You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.'"
[**11**] Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and ministered to him.

Sunday, March 2, 2014
Don Morris: "from the sermon on the mountain to the mountain of transfiguration"
Matthew 17:1-9 16 min. 52 sec.
[**1**] And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart.
[**2**] And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light.
[**3**] And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.
[**4**] And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three

booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."
[**5**] He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."
[**6**] When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe.
[**7**] But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear."
[**8**] And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.
[**9**] And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

Sunday, February 23, 2014
Don Morris: "Love - thou art high"
Matthew 5:38-48 21 min. 09 sec.
[**38**] "You have heard that it was said, `An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'
[**39**] But I say to you, Do not resist one who is evil. But if any one strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also;
[**40**] and if anyone would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well;
[**41**] and if any one forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.
[**42**] Give to him who begs from you, and do not refuse him who would borrow from you.
[**43**] "You have heard that it was said, `You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'
[**44**] But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
[**45**] so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.
[**46**] For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?
[**47**] And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?
[**48**] You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Sunday, February 16, 2014
Don Morris: "dead poets, philosophs, priests..."
Matthew 5:21-37 20 min. 27 sec.
[**21**] "You have heard that it was said to the men of old, `You shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment.'
[**22**] But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother shall be liable to the council, and whoever says, `You fool!' shall be liable to the hell of fire.
[**23**] So if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,
[**24**] leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.
[**25**] Make friends quickly with your accuser, while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison;
[**26**] truly, I say to you, you will never get out till you have paid the last penny.
[**27**] "You have heard that it was said, `You shall not commit adultery.'

[**28**] But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
[**29**] If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell.
[**30**] And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.
[**31**] "It was also said, `Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'
[**32**] But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.
[**33**] "Again you have heard that it was said to the men of old, `You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.'
[**34**] But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,
[**35**] or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.
[**36**] And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.
[**37**] Let what you say be simply `Yes' or `No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

Sunday, February 9, 2014
Don Morris: "between Jesus and the bible"
Matthew 5:13-20 23min. 14 sec.
[13] "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men.
[14] "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid.
[15] Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.
[16] Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
[17] "Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them.
[18] For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.
[19] Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
[20] For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Sunday, February 2, 2014
Don Morris: "Christ against culture"
Matthew 5:1-12 15 min. 10 sec.
[**1**] Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him.
[**2**] And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
[**3**] "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[**4**] "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
[**5**] "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

[**6**] "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
[**7**] "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
[**8**] "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
[**9**] "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
[**10**] "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[**11**] "Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
[**12**] Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Sunday, January 26, 2014
Don Morris: "disciples at second-hand"
Matthew 4:12-23 19 min. 33 sec.
[**12**] Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee;
[**13**] and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,
[**14**] that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
[**15**] "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
toward the sea, across the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles --
[**16**] the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."
[**17**] From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
[**18**] As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.
[**19**] And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."
[**20**] Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
[**21**] And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.
[**22**] Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.
[**23**] And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

Sunday, January 19, 2014
Don Morris: "come and see"
John 1:29-42 16 min. 18 sec.
[**29**] The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
[**30**] This is he of whom I said, `After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.'
[**31**] I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be

revealed to Israel."
[**32**] And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him.
[**33**] I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, `He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'
[**34**] And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."
[**35**] The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples;
[**36**] and he looked at Jesus as he walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"
[**37**] The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.
[**38**] Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you seek?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?"
[**39**] He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.
[**40**] One of the two who heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.
[**41**] He first found his brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ).
[**42**] He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him, and said, "So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

Sunday, January 12, 2014
Don Morris: "the (exceptionally) unexceptional Jesus"
Matthew 3:13-17 14 min. 20 sec.
[**13**] Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.
[**14**] John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"
[**15**] But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented.
[**16**] And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him;
[**17**] and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Sunday, January 5, 2014
Don Morris: "east and west in the kingdom of God"
Matthew 2:1-12 14 min. 57 sec.
[**1**] Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying,
[**2**] "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."
[**3**] When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;
[**4**] and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
[**5**] They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:
[**6**] `And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler
who will govern my people Israel.'"
[**7**] Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared;
[**8**] and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."
[**9**] When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.
[**10**] When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy;
[**11**] and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.
[**12**] And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Sunday, December 29, 2013
Don Morris: "in a village called Nazareth"
Matthew 2:13-23 17 min. 57 sec.
[**13**] Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."
[**14**] And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt,
[**15**] and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."
[**16**] Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men.
[**17**] Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:
[**18**] "A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled,
because they were no more."
[**19**] But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying,
[**20**] "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead."
[**21**] And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.
[**22**] But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.
[**23**] And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Sunday, December 15, 2013
Don Morris: "the 'long-expected Jesus'? or an Advent beatitude"
Matthew 11:2-11 23 min. (children's sermon included)
[**2**] Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples
[**3**] and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?"
[**4**] And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see:
[**5**] the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.
[**6**] And blessed is he who takes no offense at me."
[**7**] As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind?
[**8**] Why then did you go out? To see a man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, those who wear soft raiment are in kings' houses.
[**9**] Why then did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.
[**10**] This is he of whom it is written, `Behold, I send my messenger before thy face,
who shall prepare thy way before thee.'
[**11**] Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Sunday, December 8, 2013
Don Morris: "John's gift to Advent"
Matthew 3: 1-12 19 min. 07 sec. (includes prayer)
[**1**] In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea,
[**2**] "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
[**3**] For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."
[**4**] Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.
[**5**] Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan,
[**6**] and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
[**7**] But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
[**8**] Bear fruit that befits repentance,
[**9**] and do not presume to say to yourselves, `We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.
[**10**] Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
[**11**] "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
[**12**] His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Sunday, December 1, 2013
Don Morris: "of that day and hour"
Matthew 24: 36-44 18 min. 34 sec.
[**36**] "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.
[**37**] As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man.
[**38**] For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark,
[**39**] and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man.
[**40**] Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left.
[**41**] Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left.
[**42**] Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.
[**43**] But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into.
[**44**] Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Sunday, November 24, 2013
Don Morris: "Christ the King vs. Christ Crucified"
Luke 23:13-43 20 min. 38 sec.
[**13**] Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people,
[**14**] and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him;
[**15**] neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him;
[**16**] I will therefore chastise him and release him."
[**18**] But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas" --
[**19**] a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city, and for murder.
[**20**] Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus;
[**21**] but they shouted out, "Crucify, crucify him!"
[**22**] A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no crime deserving death; I will therefore chastise him and release him."
[**23**] But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.
[**24**] So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted.
[**25**] He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, whom they asked for; but Jesus he delivered up to their will.
[**26**] And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.
[**27**] And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him.
[**28**] But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for

yourselves and for your children.
[**29**] For behold, the days are coming when they will say, `Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!'
[**30**] Then they will begin to say to the mountains, `Fall on us'; and to the hills, `Cover us.'
[**31**] For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"
[**32**] Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.
[**33**] And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.
[**34**] And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.
[**35**] And the people stood by, watching; but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!"
[**36**] The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar,
[**37**] and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"
[**38**] There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."
[**39**] One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"
[**40**] But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?
[**41**] And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
[**42**] And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
[**43**] And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Sunday, November 17, 2013
Don Morris: "when your leaders say, 'the kingdom of God is...'"
Luke 21:5-19 11 min. 05 sec.
[**5**] And as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said,
[**6**] "As for these things which you see, the days will come when there shall not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."
[**7**] And they asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign when this is about to take place?"
[**8**] And he said, "Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name, saying, `I am he!' and, `The time is at hand!' Do not go after them.
[**9**] And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once."
[**10**] Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
[**11**] there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.
[**12**] But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake.
[**13**] This will be a time for you to bear testimony.
[**14**] Settle it therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer;

[**15**] for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.
[**16**] You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and kinsmen and friends, and some of you they will put to death;
[**17**] you will be hated by all for my name's sake.
[**18**] But not a hair of your head will perish.
[**19**] By your endurance you will gain your lives.

Sunday, October 27, 2013
Don Morris: "to rejoice in the tents of prosperity"
Luke 18:9-14 18 min. 21 sec.
[**9**] He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others:
[**10**] "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.
[**11**] The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, `God, I thank thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.
[**12**] I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.'
[**13**] But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, `God, be merciful to me a sinner!'
[**14**] I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Sunday, October 13, 2013
Don Morris: "the atheist of Centerville" or "the Doug Bates theory of a happy life"
Luke 17:11-19 18min. 54 sec.
[**11**] On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee.
[**12**] And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance
[**13**] and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."
[**14**] When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed.
[**15**] Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice;
[**16**] and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan.
[**17**] Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?
[**18**] Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"
[**19**] And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Sunday, October 6, 2013
Don Morris: "perfectly free lord of all, subject to none; perfectly dutiful servant of all,
Luke 17:5-10; 13 min. 57 sec.
[**5**] The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"
[**6**] And the Lord said, "If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this

sycamine tree, `Be rooted up, and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.
[**7**] "Will any one of you, who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep, say to him when he has come in from the field, `Come at once and sit down at table'?
[**8**] Will he not rather say to him, `Prepare supper for me, and gird yourself and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterward you shall eat and drink'?
[**9**] Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded?
[**10**] So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, `We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

Sunday, September 29, 2013
Don Morris: "the unexamined life"
Luke 16:19-31 17 min. 18 sec.
[**19**] "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.
[**20**] And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores,
[**21**] who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.
[**22**] The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried;
[**23**] and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom.
[**24**] And he called out, `Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.'
[**25**] But Abraham said, `Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.
[**26**] And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'
[**27**] And he said, `Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house,
[**28**] for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.'
[**29**] But Abraham said, `They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.'
[**30**] And he said, `No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'
[**31**] He said to him, `If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

Sunday, September 15, 2013
Don Morris: "Savior, like a shepherd lead us"
Luke 15:1-10 15min. 33 sec.
[**1**] Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.
[**2**] And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
[**3**] So he told them this parable:
[**4**] "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the

ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it?
[**5**] And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
[**6**] And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, `Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.'
[**7**] Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
[**8**] "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?
[**9**] And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, `Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost.'
[**10**] Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Sunday, September 8, 2013
Don Morris: "'cheap grace' or 'the cost of discipleship'"
Luke 14: 25-33; 21 min. 16 sec.
[**25**] Now great multitudes accompanied him; and he turned and said to them,
[**26**] "If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.
[**27**] Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple.
[**28**] For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?
[**29**] Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,
[**30**] saying, `This man began to build, and was not able to finish.'
[**31**] Or what king, going to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and take counsel whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?
[**32**] And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends an embassy and asks terms of peace.
[**33**] So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

Sunday, September 1, 2013
Don Morris: "Communion Meditation"
Luke 14:1, 7-14 16 min. 41 sec.
[**1**] One sabbath when he went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they were watching him.

[**7**] Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he marked how they chose the places of honor, saying to them,
[**8**] "When you are invited by anyone to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest a more eminent man than you be invited by him;
[**9**] and he who invited you both will come and say to you, `Give place to this man,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.
[**10**] But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, `Friend, go up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at

table with you.
[**11**] For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."
[**12**] He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your kinsmen or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return, and you be repaid.
[**13**] But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind,
[**14**] and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Sunday, August 25, 2013
Don Morris: "the sum of all reverence"
Luke 13:10-17 19 min. 47 sec.
[**10**] Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath.
[**11**] And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself.
[**12**] And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity."
[**13**] And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God.
[**14**] But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day."
[**15**] Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it?
[**16**] And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?"
[**17**] As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Sunday, August 18, 2013
Don Morris: "things fall apart; the center cannot hold"
Luke 12:49-56 18 min. 54 sec.
[**49**] "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!
[**50**] I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how I am constrained until it is accomplished!
[**51**] Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division;
[**52**] for henceforth in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three;
[**53**] they will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against her mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."
[**54**] He also said to the multitudes, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, `A shower is coming'; and so it happens.
[**55**] And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, `There will be scorching heat'; and it happens.

[**56**] You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky; but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Sunday, August 11, 2013
Don Morris: "on the question of being understandable"
Luke 12:32-40 21 min. 54 sec.
[**32**] "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
[**33**] Sell your possessions and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.
[**34**] For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
[**35**] "Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning,
[**36**] and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks.
[**37**] Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them.
[**38**] If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants!
[**39**] But know this, that if the householder had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into.
[**40**] You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Sunday, August 4, 2013
Don Morris: "death's question"
Luke 12:13-21 19min. 47 sec.
[**13**] One of the multitude said to him, "Teacher, bid my brother divide the inheritance with me."
[**14**] But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or divider over you?"
[**15**] And he said to them, "Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."
[**16**] And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully;
[**17**] and he thought to himself, `What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?'
[**18**] And he said, `I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
[**19**] And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.'
[**20**] But God said to him, `Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'
[**21**] So is he who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

Sunday, July 28, 2013
Don Morris: "antidote to prayer"
Luke 11:1-13 23 min. 04 sec.
[**1**] He was praying in a certain place, and when he ceased, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."
[**2**] And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.

[**3**] Give us each day our daily bread;
[**4**] and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us; and lead us not into temptation."
[**5**] And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, `Friend, lend me three loaves;
[**6**] for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him';
[**7**] and he will answer from within, `Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything'?
[**8**] I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him whatever he needs.
[**9**] And I tell you, Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.
[**10**] For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.
[**11**] What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent;
[**12**] or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?
[**13**] If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Sunday, July 21, 2013
Don Morris: "infinite concern"
Luke 10:38-42 22 min. 10 sec.
[**38**] Now as they went on their way, he entered a village; and a woman named Martha received him into her house.
[**39**] And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.
[**40**] But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."
[**41**] But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things;
[**42**] one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her."

Sunday, July 14, 2013
Don Morris: "how do you read?" and "what do you think?"
Luke 10:25-37 15 min. 14 sec.
[**25**] And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"
[**26**] He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?"
[**27**] And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."
[**28**] And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."
[**29**] But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"
[**30**] Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead.
[**31**] Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.

[**32**] So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.
[**33**] But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion,
[**34**] and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
[**35**] And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, `Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.'
[**36**] Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?"
[**37**] He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Sunday, July 7, 2013
Don Morris: "the high calling"
Luke 10:1-11;16-20 15 min. 30 sec.
[**1**] After this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come.
[**2**] And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.
[**3**] Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.
[**4**] Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road.
[**5**] Whatever house you enter, first say, `Peace be to this house!'
[**6**] And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you.
[**7**] And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house.
[**8**] Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you;
[**9**] heal the sick in it and say to them, `The kingdom of God has come near to you.'
[**10**] But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say,
[**11**] `Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off against you; nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'
[**16**] "He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."
[**17**] The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"
[**18**] And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.
[**19**] Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you.
[**20**] Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Sunday, June 30, 2013
Don Morris: "song of the open road"
Luke 9:51-62 24 min 34 sec.
[**51**] When the days drew near for him to be received up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.
[**52**] And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him;

[**53**] but the people would not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.
[**54**] And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to bid fire come down from heaven and consume them?"
[**55**] But he turned and rebuked them.
[**56**] And they went on to another village.
[**57**] As they were going along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."
[**58**] And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head."
[**59**] To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father."
[**60**] But he said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."
[**61**] Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home."
[**62**] Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Sunday, June 23, 2013
Don Morris: "the finger of God"
Luke 8: 26-39 22min. 51 sec.
[**26**] Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.
[**27**] And as he stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs.
[**28**] When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me."
[**29**] For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.)
[**30**] Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him.
[**31**] And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss.
[**32**] Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave.
[**33**] Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.
[**34**] When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country.
[**35**] Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.
[**36**] And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed.
[**37**] Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned.
[**38**] The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying,

[**39**] "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Sunday, May 12, 2013
Donald Morris: "disciples at second-hand"
John 17: 20-26 15 min. 51 sec.
[**20**] "I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word,
[**21**] that they may all be one; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.
[**22**] The glory which thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,
[**23**] I in them and thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me.
[**24**] Father, I desire that they also, whom thou hast given me, may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which thou hast given me in thy love for me before the foundation of the world.
[**25**] O righteous Father, the world has not known thee, but I have known thee; and these know that thou hast sent me.
[**26**] I made known to them thy name, and I will make it known, that the love with which thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Sunday, April 28, 2013
Donald Morris: "a religion of love alone?"
John 13:31-35 17 min. 37 sec.
[**31**] When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of man glorified, and in him God is glorified;
[**32**] if God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once.
[**33**] Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, `Where I am going you cannot come.'
[**34**] A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.
[**35**] By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Sunday, April 7, 2013
Donald Morris: "central peace subsisting at the heart/of endless agitation"
John 20:19-30 15min. 50 sec.
[**19**] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."
[**20**] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
[**21**] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."
[**22**] And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

[**23**] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
[**24**] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.
[**25**] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."
[**26**] Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you."
[**27**] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless but believing."
[**28**] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
[**29**] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."
[**30**] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

Sunday, March 24, 2013
Don Morrris: "constantly risking absurdity and death"
Luke 23:1-49 20min. 5sec.
[**1**] Then the whole company of them arose, and brought him before Pilate.
[**2**] And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ a king."
[**3**] And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so."
[**4**] And Pilate said to the chief priests and the multitudes, "I find no crime in this man."
[**5**] But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place."
[**6**] When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean.
[**7**] And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time.
[**8**] When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him.
[**9**] So he questioned him at some length; but he made no answer.
[**10**] The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him.
[**11**] And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then, arraying him in gorgeous apparel, he sent him back to Pilate.
[**12**] And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.
[**13**] Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people,
[**14**] and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him;
[**15**] neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him;
[**16**] I will therefore chastise him and release him."
[**18**] But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas" --

[**19**] a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city, and for murder.
[**20**] Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus;
[**21**] but they shouted out, "Crucify, crucify him!"
[**22**] A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no crime deserving death; I will therefore chastise him and release him."
[**23**] But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.
[**24**] So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted.
[**25**] He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, whom they asked for; but Jesus he delivered up to their will.
[**26**] And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.
[**27**] And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him.
[**28**] But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.
[**29**] For behold, the days are coming when they will say, `Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!'
[**30**] Then they will begin to say to the mountains, `Fall on us'; and to the hills, `Cover us.'
[**31**] For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"
[**32**] Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.
[**33**] And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.
[**34**] And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.
[**35**] And the people stood by, watching; but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!"
[**36**] The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar,
[**37**] and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"
[**38**] There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."
[**39**] One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"
[**40**] But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?
[**41**] And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
[**42**] And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
[**43**] And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
[**44**] It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour,
[**45**] while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.
[**46**] Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.
[**47**] Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, and said, "Certainly this man was innocent!"

[**48**] And all the multitudes who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.
[**49**] And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

Sunday, March 10, 2013
Donald Morris: "if I were holy..."
Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32 17min.49sec.
[**1**] Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.
[**2**] And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
[**3**] So he told them this parable
[**11**] And he said, "There was a man who had two sons;
[**12**] and the younger of them said to his father, `Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them.
[**13**] Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living.
[**14**] And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want.
[**15**] So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine.
[**16**] And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything.
[**17**] But when he came to himself he said, `How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger!
[**18**] I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;
[**19**] I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.'"
[**20**] And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.
[**21**] And the son said to him, `Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'
[**22**] But the father said to his servants, `Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet;
[**23**] and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry;
[**24**] for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.
[**25**] "Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.
[**26**] And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant.
[**27**] And he said to him, `Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.'
[**28**] But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,
[**29**] but he answered his father, `Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends.
[**30**] But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for

him the fatted calf!'
[**31**] And he said to him, `Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.
[**32**] It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Sunday, March 3, 2013
Donald Morris: "the arrows of death"
Luke 13:1-9 21min, 50sec.
[**1**] There were some present at that very time who told him of the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
[**2**] And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered thus?
[**3**] I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.
[**4**] Or those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who dwelt in Jerusalem?
[**5**] I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."
[**6**] And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.
[**7**] And he said to the vinedresser, `Lo, these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?'
[**8**] And he answered him, `Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and put on manure.
[**9**] And if it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Sunday, February 24, 2013
Donald Morris: "highest of feasts on the way to freedom"
Luke 13:31-35 23min 49 sec.
[**31**] At that very hour some Pharisees came, and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."
[**32**] And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, `Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course.
[**33**] Nevertheless I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following; for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.'
[**34**] O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!
[**35**] Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, `Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

Sunday, February 17, 2013
Donald Morris: "the temptation of glorification"
Luke 4: 1-13 24min.52sec.
[**1**] And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit
[**2**] for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing in those days; and when they were ended, he was hungry.
[**3**] The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."
[**4**] And Jesus answered him, "It is written, `Man shall not live by bread alone.'"

[**5**] And the devil took him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time,
[**6**] and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory; for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.
[**7**] If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours."
[**8**] And Jesus answered him, "It is written, `You shall worship the Lord your God,
and him only shall you serve.'"
[**9**] And he took him to Jerusalem, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here;
[**10**] for it is written, `He will give his angels charge of you, to guard you,'
[**11**] and `On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"
[**12**] And Jesus answered him, "It is said, `You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"
[**13**] And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sunday, February 10, 2013
Donald Morris: "the big questions"
Luke 9:28-36 30min 34sec
[**28**] Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.
[**29**] And as he was praying, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became dazzling white.
[**30**] And behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Elijah,
[**31**] who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem.
[**32**] Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, and when they wakened they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.
[**33**] And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah" -- not knowing what he said.
[**34**] As he said this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.
[**35**] And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"
[**36**] And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silence and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

Sunday, January 27, 2013
Donald Morris: "the picnic"
Luke 4:14-21 24min 4sec
[**14**] And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee, and a report concerning him went out through all the surrounding country.
[**15**] And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.
[**16**] And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day. And he stood up to read;

[**17**] and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written,
[**18**] "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
[**19**] to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."
[**20**] And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.
[**21**] And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Sunday, January 20, 2013
Donald Morris: "the taste of new wine"
John 2:1-11 29min 20sec
[**1**] On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there;
[**2**] Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples.
[**3**] When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."
[**4**] And Jesus said to her, "O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come."
[**5**] His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
[**6**] Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.
[**7**] Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.
[**8**] He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast." So they took it.
[**9**] When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward of the feast called the bridegroom
[**10**] and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now."
[**11**] This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him.
[**12**] After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples; and there they stayed for a few days.

Sunday, January 13, 2013
Donald Morris: "the only wisdom we can hope to acquire"
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 22min.30sec.
[**15**] As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ,
[**16**] John answered them all, "I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
[**17**] His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
[**18**] So, with many other exhortations, he preached good news to the people.
[**19**] But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and

for all the evil things that Herod had done,
[**20**] added this to them all, that he shut up John in prison.
[**21**] Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,
[**22**] and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Sunday, January 6, 2013
Donald Morris: "spots of time/that with distinct preeminence retain/a renovating virtue"
Matthew 2:1-12 23 min. 41 sec
[**1**] Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying,
[**2**] "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."
[**3**] When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;
[**4**] and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
[**5**] They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:
[**6**] `And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will govern my people Israel.'"
[**7**] Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared;
[**8**] and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."
[**9**] When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.
[**10**] When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy;
[**11**] and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.
[**12**] And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Sunday, December 23, 2012
Don Morris: “to set so high a value on a word”
John 1:1-14 22 min. 30 sec.
[**1**] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
[**2**] He was in the beginning with God;
[**3**] all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.
[**4**] In him was life, and the life was the light of men.
[**5**] The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
[**6**] There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

[**7**] He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him.
[**8**] He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.
[**9**] The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world.
[**10**] He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not.
[**11**] He came to his own home, and his own people received him not.
[**12**] But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God;
[**13**] who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
[**14**] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

Sunday, December 9, 2012
Don Morris: "the Word without a word"
Luke 3:1-6 26 min. 34 sec.
[**1**] In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiber'i-us Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Iturae'a and Trachoni'tis, and Lysa'ni-as tetrarch of Abile'ne,
[**2**] in the high-priesthood of Annas and Ca'iaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechari'ah in the wilderness;
[**3**] and he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
[**4**] As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:Prepare the way of the Lord,make his paths straight.
[**5**] Every valley shall be filled,and every mountain and hill shall be brought low,and the crooked shall be made straight,and the rough ways shall be made smooth;
[**6**] and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Sunday, December 2, 2012
Don Morris: "the precious life-blood of a master spirit
Luke 21:25-36 12 min. 47 sec.
[**25**] "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves,
[**26**] men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
[**27**] And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
[**28**] Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."
[**29**] And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees;
[**30**] as soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near.
[**31**] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.
[**32**] Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all has taken place.
[**33**] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
[**34**] "But take heed to yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a snare;

[**35**] for it will come upon all who dwell upon the face of the whole earth.
[**36**] But watch at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of man."

Sunday, November 25, 2012
Don Morris: "the glorias and gentle rule"
John 18:33 22 min. 32 sec.
[**33**] Pilate entered the praetorium again and called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"
[**34**] Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?"
[**35**] Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?"
[**36**] Jesus answered, "My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingship is not from the world."
[**37**] Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice."

Sunday, November 18, 2012
Don Morris: "round the decay of that colossal wreck"
Mark 13: 1-2 16 min. 57 sec.
[1] And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!"
[2] And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another, that will not be thrown down."

Sunday, November 11, 2012
Don Morris: "extreme poverty or wealth of liberality"
Mark 12:38-44 13 min. 10 sec.
[38] And in his teaching he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to go about in long robes, and to have salutations in the market places
[39] and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts,
[40] who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."
[41] And he sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the multitude putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums.
[42] And a poor widow came, and put in two copper coins, which make a penny.
[43] And he called his disciples to him, and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury.
[44] For they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living."

Sunday, November 4, 2012
Don Morris: "house of questions"
Mark 12:28-34 9 min. 49 sec.
[28] and they said to him, "By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?"
[29] Jesus said to them, "I will ask you a question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.
[30] Was the baptism of John from heaven or from men? Answer me."
[31] And they argued with one another, "If we say, `From heaven,' he will say, `Why then did you not believe him?'
[32] But shall we say, `From men'?" -- they were afraid of the people, for all held that John was a real prophet.
[33] So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

Sunday, October 28, 2012
Don Morris: "in praise of darkness"
Mark 10:46-52 20 min. 17 sec.
[46] And they came to Jericho; and as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude, Bartimae'us, a blind beggar, the son of Timae'us, was sitting by the roadside.
[47] And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"
[48] And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
[49] And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; rise, he is calling you."
[50] And throwing off his mantle he sprang up and came to Jesus.
[51] And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Master, let me receive my sight."
[52] And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

[43] But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant,
[44] and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.
[45] For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Sunday, October 14, 2012
Don Morris; "just one more thing"
Mark 10:17-22 20 min. 55 sec.
[17] And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
[18] And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.

[19] You know the commandments: `Do not kill, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'"
[20] And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth."
[21] And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."
[22] At that saying his countenance fell, and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

Sunday, October 7, 2012
Don Morris: "to infancy, O Lord, again I come"
Mark 10:13-16 16 min. 45 sec.
[13] And they were bringing children to him, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them.
[14] But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God.
[15] Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."
[16] And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Sunday, September 23, 2012
Don Morris: "fear of the question"
Mark 9:30-37 20 min. 40 sec.
[30] They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it;
[31] for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."
[32] But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to ask him.
[33] And they came to Caper'na-um; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?"
[34] But they were silent; for on the way they had discussed with one another who was the greatest.
[35] And he sat down and called the twelve; and he said to them, "If any one would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."
[36] And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and taking him in his arms, he said to them,
[37] "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

Sunday, September 16, 2012
Don Morris: "a different wisdom"
Mark 8:27-38 22 min. 42 sec.
[27] And Jesus went on with his disciples, to the villages of Caesare'a Philip'pi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that I am?"

[28] And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Eli'jah; and others one of the prophets."
[29] And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."
[30] And he charged them to tell no one about him.
[31]And he began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
[32] And he said this plainly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.
[33] But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men."
[34] And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[35] For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.
[36] For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?
[37] For what can a man give in return for his life?
[38] For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sunday, September 9, 2012
Don Morris: "subject to the same diseases, by the same means"
Mark 7:24-30 19 min. 45 sec.
[24] And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house, and would not have any one know it; yet he could not be hid.
[25] But immediately a woman, whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell down at his feet.
[26] Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophoeni'cian by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.
[27] And he said to her, "Let the children first be fed, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."
[28] But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."
[29] And he said to her, "For this saying you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter."
[30] And she went home, and found the child lying in bed, and the demon gone.

Sunday, September 2, 2012
Don Morris: "out of the slimy mud of words/out of the sleet and hail of verbal imprecisions"
Mark: 7:1-8 15min. 37 sec.
[1] Now when the Pharisees gathered together to him, with some of the scribes, who had come from Jerusalem,
[2] they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands defiled, that is, unwashed.

[3] (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, observing the tradition of the elders;
[4] and when they come from the market place, they do not eat unless they purify themselves; and there are many other traditions which they observe, the washing of cups and pots and vessels of bronze.)
[5] And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with hands defiled?"
[6] And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, `This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
[7] in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'
[8] You leave the commandment of God, and hold fast the tradition of men."

Sunday, August 26, 2012
Don Morris: "eating words'
John 6:56-69 19 min. 24 sec.
[56] He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.
[57] As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me.
[58] This is the bread which came down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live for ever."
[59] This he said in the synagogue, as he taught at Caper'na-um.
[60] Many of his disciples, when they heard it, said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"
[61] But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples murmured at it, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?
[62] Then what if you were to see the Son of man ascending where he was before?
[63] It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.
[64] But there are some of you that do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who those were that did not believe, and who it was that would betray him.
[65] And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."
[66] After this many of his disciples drew back and no longer went about with him.
[67] Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?"
[68] Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life;
[69] and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

Sunday, August 12, 2012
Don Morris: "taught by—God?"
John 6:35, 41-51 22 min. 16 sec.
[35] Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst.

[41] The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven."
[42] They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, `I have come down from heaven'?"
[43] Jesus answered them, "Do not murmur among yourselves.
[44] No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.
[45] It is written in the prophets, `And they shall all be taught by God.' Every one who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.
[46] Not that any one has seen the Father except him who is from God; he has seen the Father.
[47] Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.
[48] I am the bread of life.
[49] Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.
[50] This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat of it and not die.
[51] I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Sunday, August 5, 2012
Don Morris: "getting the better of words for the thing one no longer has to say"
John 6:24-35 14 min. 12 sec.
[24] So when the people saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Caper'na-um, seeking Jesus.
[25] When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

[26] Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.
[27] Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man will give to you; for on him has God the Father set his seal."
[28] Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"
[29] Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."
[30] So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see, and believe you? What work do you perform?
[31] Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, `He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"
[32] Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.
[33] For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world."
[34] They said to him, "Lord, give us this bread always."
[35] Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst.

Sunday, July 29, 2012
Don Morris: "footnote to a 'miracle'"
John 6:14-15 17 min. 23 sec.
[14] When the people saw the sign which he had done, they said, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world!"
[15] Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Sunday, July 15, 2012
Don Morris: "darker than knowledge but lighter than ignorance"
Mark 6:6-7; 12-17 19 min. 26 sec.
[6] And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.
[7] And he called to him the twelve, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.

[12] So they went out and preached that men should repent.
[13] And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.
[14] King Herod heard of it; for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him."
[15] But others said, "It is Eli'jah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old."
[16] But when Herod heard of it he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."
[17] For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Hero'di-as, his brother Philip's wife; because he had married her.

Sunday, July 8, 2012
Don Morris: "he who travels far"
Mark 6:1-6 23 min. 8 sec.
[1] He went away from there and came to his own country; and his disciples followed him.
[2] And on the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue; and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get all this? What is the wisdom given to him? What mighty works are wrought by his hands!
[3] Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.
[4] And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house."
[5] And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands upon a few sick people and healed them.
[6] And he marveled because of their unbelief.
And he went about among the villages teaching.

July 1, 2012
Don Morris: "when a foolish man hears of the Tao"
Mark 5:21-24; 35-43 21 min. 14 sec.
[21] And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him; and he was beside the sea.
[22] Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Ja'irus by name; and seeing him, he fell at his feet,
[23] and besought him, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live."
[24] And he went with him.
And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him.

[35] While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?"
[36] But ignoring what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe."
[37] And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James.
[38] When they came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, he saw a tumult, and people weeping and wailing loudly.
[39] And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a tumult and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping."
[40] And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was.
[41] Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Tal'itha cu'mi"; which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise."
[42] And immediately the girl got up and walked (she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement.
[43] And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Sunday, June 3, 2012
Don Morris:"ode to the west wind"
John 3:1-8 24 min. 5 sec.
[1] Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicode'mus, a ruler of the Jews.
[2] This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him."
[3] Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
[4] Nicode'mus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"
[5] Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
[6] That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
[7] Do not marvel that I said to you, `You must be born anew.'

[8] The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with every one who is born of the Spirit."

Sunday, May 27, 2012
Don Morris: "until a flash of unforeseen remembrance falls on what has been"
John 15:26-27 16:4b-15
[26] But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me;
[27] and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning.

[4] But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you of them."I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.
[5] But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, `Where are you going?'
[6] But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.
[7] Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
[8] And when he comes, he will convince the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:
[9] concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;
[10] concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more;
[11] concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.
[12]"I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.
[13] When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
[14] He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
[15] All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Sunday. May 20, 2012
Don Morris:"the world is too much with us or not with us, enough"
John 17:6-19 30 min. 49 sec.
[6]"I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word.
[7] Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee;
[8] for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me.
[9] I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine;
[10] all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them.
[11] And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

[12] While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled.
[13] But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.
[14] I have given them thy word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
[15] I do not pray that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil one.
[16] They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
[17] Sanctify them in the truth; thy word is truth.
[18] As thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
[19] And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be consecrated in truth.

Sunday, May 13, 2012
Don Morris: "perfectly free lord of all, subject to none; perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all"
John 15:12-17 25 min. 32 sec.
[9] As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.
[10] If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
[11] These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.
[12]"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
[13] Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
[14] You are my friends if you do what I command you.
[15] No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.
[16] You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.
[17] This I command you, to love one another.

Sunday, May 6, 2012
Don Morris: "Roman Fountain"
John 15:1-8 18 min. 38 sec.
[1] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

[2] Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
[3] You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you.
[4] Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

[5] I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
[6] If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned.
[7] If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.
[8] By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.

Sunday, April 29, 2012
Don Morris: "living, dying, and being damned"
John 10:11-18 27 min. 2 sec.
[11] I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
[12] He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.
[13] He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep.
[14] I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me,
[15] as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.
[16] And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd.
[17] For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again.
[18] No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again; this charge I have received from my Father."

Sunday, April 22, 2012
Don Morris: "apostolic doubt"
Luke 24:36b-48 30 min. 7 sec.
[36] As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them.
[37] But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit.
[38] And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts?
[39] See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have."
[41] And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"
[42] They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
[43] and he took it and ate before them.
[44] Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled."
[45] Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
[46] and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,
[47] and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

[48] You are witnesses of these things.

Sunday, April 15, 2012
Don Morris: 'the Jesus who keeps saying I am Jesus"
Matthew 28:1-10 23 min. 22 sec.
[1] Now after the sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Mag'dalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulchre.
[2] And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.
[3] His appearance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow.
[4] And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men.
[5] But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.
[6] He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.
[7] Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. Lo, I have told you."
[8] So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.
[9] And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Hail!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.
[10] Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Sunday, April 8, 2012
Don Morris: "the living among the dead"
Mark 16:1-8 21 min. 52 sec.
[1] And when the sabbath was past, Mary Mag'dalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salo'me, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.
[2] And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen.
[3] And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?"
[4] And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; -- it was very large.
[5] And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed.
[6] And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him.
[7] But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you."
[8] And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

Sunday, April 1, 2012
Don Morris: "high superfluousness
Mark 14:3-9 22 min. 12 sec.
[3] And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head.
[4] But there were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment thus wasted?
[5] For this ointment might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and given to the poor." And they reproached her.
[6] But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me.
[7] For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you will, you can do good to them; but you will not always have me.
[8] She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burying.
[9] And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

Sunday, March 18, 2012
Don Morris: "as the sun falling round a helpless thing"
John 3:14-21 24 min. 55 sec.
[14] And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,
[15] that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."
[16] For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
[17] For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.
[18] He who believes in him is not condemned; he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.
[19] And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
[20] For every one who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.
[21] But he who does what is true comes to the light, that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been wrought in God.

Sunday, March 11, 2012
Don Morris: "a temple not made with hands"
John 2:13-22 19 min 13 sec.
[13] The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
[14] In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers at their business.
[15] And making a whip of cords, he drove them all, with the sheep and oxen, out of the temple; and he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables.

[16] And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; you shall not make my Father's house a house of trade."
[17] His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for thy house will consume me."
[18] The Jews then said to him, "What sign have you to show us for doing this?"
[19] Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."
[20] The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?"
[21] But he spoke of the temple of his body.
[22] When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

Sunday, March 4, 2012
Don Morris: "the great turning"
Mark 8:31-38 26 min. 33 sec.
[31] And he began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
[32] And he said this plainly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.
[33] But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men."
[34] And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[35] For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.
[36] For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?
[37] For what can a man give in return for his life?
[38] For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sunday, February 26, 2012
Don Morris: "the first temptation of Christ"
Mark 1:9-15 22 min. 41 sec.
[9] In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
[10] And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove;
[11] and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."
[12] The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.
[13] And he was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him.
[14] Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,
[15] and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."

Sunday, February 19, 2012
Don Morris: "till oft converse with heavenly habitants begins to cast a beam on outward shape"
2 Corinthians 3:4-4:4 17 min. 2 sec.
[4] Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God.
[5] Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God,
[6] who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not in a written code but in the Spirit; for the written code kills, but the Spirit gives life.
[7] Now if the dispensation of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such splendor that the Israelites could not look at Moses' face because of its brightness, fading as this was,
[8] will not the dispensation of the Spirit be attended with greater splendor?
[9] For if there was splendor in the dispensation of condemnation, the dispensation of righteousness must far exceed it in splendor.
[10] Indeed, in this case, what once had splendor has come to have no splendor at all, because of the splendor that surpasses it.
[11] For if what faded away came with splendor, what is permanent must have much more splendor.
[12] Since we have such a hope, we are very bold,
[13] not like Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not see the end of the fading splendor.
[14] But their minds were hardened; for to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away.
[15] Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their minds;
[16] but when a man turns to the Lord the veil is removed.
[17] Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
[18] And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

[1] Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.
[2] We have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.
[3] And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing.
[4] In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the likeness of God.

Sunday, February 12, 2012
Don Morris: [title not available]
Mark 1:40-45 25 min. 6 sec.
[40] And a leper came to him beseeching him, and kneeling said to him, "If you will, you can make me clean."
[41] Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I will; be clean."
[42] And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean.

[43] And he sternly charged him, and sent him away at once,
[44] and said to him, "See that you say nothing to any one; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to the people."
[45] But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

Sunday, January 22, 2012
Don Morris: "stage by stage to wider spaces"
Mark 1: 14-20 25 min. 3 sec.
[14] Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,
[15] and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."
[16] And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen.
[17] And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men."
[18] And immediately they left their nets and followed him.
[19] And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zeb'edee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets.
[20] And immediately he called them; and they left their father Zeb'edee in the boat with the hired servants, and followed him.

Sunday, January 15, 2012
Don Morris: "the un-willing suspension of disbelief"
John 1:43-51 23 min. 12 sec.
[43] The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."
[44] Now Philip was from Beth-sa'ida, the city of Andrew and Peter.
[45] Philip found Nathan'a-el, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."
[46] Nathan'a-el said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."
[47] Jesus saw Nathan'a-el coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!"
[48] Nathan'a-el said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."
[49] Nathan'a-el answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"
[50] Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these."
[51] And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Sunday, January 8, 2012
Don Morris: "not to the highest but to the lowest"
Mark 1:4-11 25 min. 9 sec.
[4] John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
[5] And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
[6] Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey.
[7] And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.
[8] I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
[9] In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
[10] And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove;
[11] and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Sunday, January 1, 2012
Don Morris: "such a long journey"
Matthew 2:1-12 13min. 25 sec.
[1] Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying,
[2] "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."
[3] When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;
[4] and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
[5] They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:
[6] `And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will govern my people Israel.'"
[7] Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared;
[8] and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."
[9] When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.
[10] When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy;
[11] and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.
[12] And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.